

Government to reject Ulster majority scheme on Monday

The Government will tell the commons on Monday that it has rejected the Ulster Convention's majority plan for self-government in Northern Ireland because the convention has ruled out sharing power with the province's Roman

Catholic community (our Political Staff writes). After talks on border security in London yesterday with Mr Cooney, the Irish Republic's Minister for Justice, Mr Rees, Northern Ireland Secretary, said: "There will be concrete results very soon."

Concrete results' in security talks

Michael Hatfield
Political Staff

The Government will announce today its rejection of the Ulster Convention's majority plan for self-government in Northern Ireland because the convention has ruled out sharing power with the province's Roman



Mr Cooney: Security talks in London.

cussion would continue to be held between officials of the British and Irish governments on specific aspects of security.

SAS leader, page 2
Letters, page 13

They are highly trained specialist soldiers trained for peacekeeping work with NATO against the danger of war, but they are also very much of use in special situations such as Armagh.

The SAS men's job would be surveillance. They would form part of the army forces and be under the same rules as other soldiers.

Speaking of the Ulster Defence Association, he said any paramilitary organization embarking on civil war would bring the destruction of civilized values in the province.

Mr Rees said: "There will be concrete results very soon. You will see them in Northern Ireland and they will be announced over here."

The ministers agreed that discussed yesterday at a meeting in London Patrick Cooney, the Irish Republic's Minister for Justice, Border Security, with particular reference to South Armagh, was high on the agenda.

Mr Rees and Mr Cooney said at the end of the meeting that they were in agreement about the need for continuing and close cooperation.

After a series of meetings between the two governments, groups that dominate life in large sections of Ulster's majority Protestant community, the largest, the Ulster Defence Association, issued a statement reflecting a growing militancy.

The Ulster Defence Association's statement said: "The Protestant citizen has no option but to protect himself

and his family and ultimately his own area by any means at his disposal including punitive action."

With a threat of outright attacks against the Roman Catholic community it went on to maintain that it was only a matter of time before the Protestant gave the loyalist paramilitary groups the signal to engage in full-scale conflict.

In that event the number of dead on both sides will leave the remainder with a hollow victory.

Although similar threats and displays of paramilitary power have been made before, the present angry mood among the loyalists is being taken seriously by both politicians and security

OAU seeks African solution in Angola

From Nicholas Ashford
Addis Ababa, Jan 8

An extraordinary session of foreign ministers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) was opened here this afternoon by General Teferi Bante, the

He said that the outcome of the forthcoming meeting of African heads of state, which starts here on Saturday, would decide whether Africans could control their own destiny or whether they would "only dance to the tunes set by others."

The Angolan struggle, he added, posed the greatest challenge post-independence Africa had ever faced, more serious even than the Congo crisis 15 years ago.

The OAU meeting has been convened to try to find "an African solution" to the Angolan civil war where three rival movements and their communist and West-tern backers are locked in a bitter struggle to win control of the territory.

The war is seen by African leaders not just as an internal matter but as a struggle which has far-reaching implications for the whole of Africa and which could become a serious divisive issue within the OAU.

The main issue at the foreign ministers' meeting and at the heads of state conference will be whether the powerful lobby which supports the Marxist-orientated Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) as the legitimate Government of the country can drum up sufficient backing in the OAU for recognition of the MPLA.

At present 21 out of the organization's 46 member states have officially recognized the MPLA, which is heavily backed by the Soviet Union and Cuba.

They are Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, and Angola.

Continued on page 2, col 2

Chou En-lai, architect of détente with West, dies in Peking at 78, after long illness

By Louis Heren

Mr Chou En-lai, the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China since 1949, died of cancer in Peking yesterday at the age of 78. The news was given by the New China news agency in a broadcast monitored in Washington and Tokyo.

He had been in ill health for a long time. United States officials said he had been unable to speak properly at recent meetings in Peking with American visitors.

During more than a quarter of a century as China's leading administrator, Mr Chou had stood by the side of Chairman Mao Tse-tung who led the revolution that transformed the lives of 750 million Chinese people.

It was Mr Chou who brought about the historic volte face to Chinese policy towards the United States which made possible President Nixon's visit to China in 1972. The visit in turn led to an improvement in Sino-American relations.

During Mr Chou's illness, his duties had been taken over by Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, thought to be a possible successor to the ailing Chairman Mao.

Chairman Mao survives, but is old. When I met Mr Chou in Peking three years ago, he gently turned aside any question on who would succeed. He said that there were 100,000 men ready to take over. Perhaps, but his passing, although long expected, will cause anxiety throughout the world.

If Mr Mao is the guru of the Chinese revolution, Mr Chou was not so much the communist as the shrewd maoist who administered China whatever, or in spite of, the edicts handed down by Mr Mao from his quarters in the Forbidden City.

China emerged from the civil war a shattered, damaged but still viable, largely because of Mr Chou.

The internal stability of China is of the greatest importance for the West, the East, and the Third World, but the external relations are no less impor-



Mr Chou En-lai: he transformed US-Sino relations.

tant. In this vital area Mr Chou's shrewdness and level-headedness was also paramount. There is no obvious successor, at least none who has comparable experience and knowledge of the outside world. His grasp of events, developments and the motivations of other countries was extraordinary. I doubt if there is a statesman in Washington, Moscow, West European capital who can compare.

One of those 100,000 men Mr Chou mentioned casually will

tionary fighter of the Chinese people and an outstanding leader of the party and the state.

"Since Comrade Chou En-lai fell ill in 1972, he had been given meticulous, many-sided treatment by medical personnel under the constant and affectionate attention of our great leader Chairman Mao and the party central committee. He persevered in work all the time and waged a tenacious struggle against the illness."

"Owing to the worsening of his conditions despite all treatment, Comrade Chou En-lai, the great fighter of the Chinese people, finally departed from us. His death is a gigantic loss to our party, our Army and the people of our country, to the cause of China's socialist revolution and construction, to the international cause of opposing imperialism, colonialism, and hegemonism, as well as to the cause of the international communist movement." — Agency France-Press.

Washington: Former President Nixon sent a telegram to Peking offering his condolences and praising Mr Chou's contribution to détente between the two countries. Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, whose secret visit to Peking in 1971 to meet with Chinese leaders led to the most remarkable achievement of the Nixon presidency, said: "I admired Chou very much."

President Ford said: "Premier Chou En-lai was a long remembered as a remarkable leader who has left his imprint not only on the history of modern China, but also on the world scene."

We Americans will remember him especially for the role he played in building a new relationship between the People's Republic of China and the United States. We are confident that this relationship will continue to develop on the foundation of understanding and cooperation which he helped to establish."

Moscow: Tass announced the death in a brief dispatch from Peking, without comment.

Obituary, page 16

UDA claims all-out conflict 'only a matter of time'

from Christopher Walker

Hard-line "loyalists" in Northern Ireland yesterday stepped up their campaign against the Irish Government with a series of ultimatums aimed at next week's Westminster debate and a warning from their largest private army of the imminent prospect of civil war through-out the province.

The deepening atmosphere of political crisis came on the day when the Protestant victims of Ulster's worst sectarian massacre were buried in adjacent hillside graveyards in their native village of Bessbrook, south Armagh.

During one of the two services, roared over loudspeakers to hundreds of people standing

in the pouring rain, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, Dr Temple Lundy, spoke of the fulfilment of the increasing campaign of the increasing murder and the danger of sectarian violence.

"We cannot go back to the Dark Ages, where each man made a law for himself and tried to uphold it by his own arms," he said.

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and his family and ultimately his own area by any means at his disposal including punitive action."

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In that event the number of dead on both sides will leave the remainder with a hollow victory.

Although similar threats and displays of paramilitary power have been made before, the present angry mood among the loyalists is being taken seriously by both politicians and security

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UDA leader, page 2
Letters, page 13

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Rumours of S African withdrawal

Washington, Jan 8.—United States officials said today the White House had been told informally that South Africa was preparing to withdraw its troops from Angola.

They gave no details about the White House's informant and said there had been no direct diplomatic contact from South Africa.

The officials were commenting on a report yesterday by the National Broadcasting Company (NBC), which quoted diplomatic sources as saying South Africa had told President Ford that it would remove its troops and equipment within 48 hours. They are reported to be about 1,000 South African troops in Angola supporting Angolan groups fighting the Soviet-backed

Mr Rott Nessen, the White House press secretary, said today: "The United States Government has received no official word that would confirm it."

Cape Town, Jan 8.—South Africa today barred local newspapers from publishing the NBC report. The country has never admitted having troops deep inside Angola.

Asked if the report was accurate, a Defence Ministry spokesman said: "To the best of my knowledge—No."

Moderates succeed in Leyland union poll

By Clifford Webb

Moderate shop stewards have had a resounding success in elections for membership of the Leyland Cars Joint Management Committee.

The new three-tier participation scheme introduced as a result of the Ryder recommendations. Middle-of-the-road men have captured most of the 14 union seats for which voting is now complete. The fifteenth and final seat still to be filled by a staff representative.

Nominations and voting for the important national body were restricted to members of the middle-tier divisional committees, who are themselves nominated and elected by plant committees. Membership of all three bodies is restricted to shop stewards.

The council will hold its first meeting before the end of the month under the chairmanship of Mr Derek Robinson, managing director of Leyland Cars Management. It will also be represented by senior executives from the finance, personnel and production departments.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has the strongest representation, with six members, giving it a surprising majority of ten over the biggest union in the industry, the Transport and General Workers' Union.

At Leyland's headquarters in

Wave of strikes hits Spain

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Jan 8
Many thousands of Spanish workers today came out in sympathy with the Madrid Metro railwaymen, who have been on strike since Monday night. It was estimated that 12,000 of the 15,000 factory workers in the Madrid industrial suburb of Getafe were on strike and 500 demonstrators marched through the working-class district of Vallecas.

In Madrid and Toledo, a total of 16,000 Standard-ITT workers also staged a strike and industrial action was reported from many parts of Spain.

On the Metro itself, where troops operated on line yesterday, another two lines were opened by then today. This meant the Underground was working at about 70 per cent of capacity.

Also in Madrid, leaders of the building workers' locked themselves in their headquarters in discussion about the rejection of their pay claim.

Steel peace hopes in balance

By Our Labour Editor

Peace hopes in the steel industry hung in the balance after negotiations on wage bill economies were adjourned after more than four hours last night.

The unions put forward their plan to continue unofficial picketing by sending out teams to plants experiencing problems in implementing savings already agreed, but stuck fast to their demand that the British Steel Corporation must not unilaterally abandon any guaranteed working week from Sunday.

As the deadline for operating the next phase of BSC's cost-cutting programme approaches, the two sides are clearly striving to reach an accommodation that will avert a potentially crippling confrontation.

The negotiations became bogged down yesterday when the corporation demanded guarantees that the unions would voluntarily acquiesce in reducing the labour force to bring down the industry's losses, now more than £8m a week.

Five-passenger plane is damaged as RAF jet flies close to check identity

By a Staff Reporter

The Civil Aviation Authority and the RAF yesterday began investigations into a collision over the North Sea between a Lightning interceptor jet and a twin-engined civilian piston aircraft with five people on board on Wednesday night. Both aircraft landed safely.

The RAF jet had been sent up to check the identity of the civilian craft and apparently touched it as it flew close. When the twin-engined Aztec landed safely at Kirmington airport, Humberside, a fool of its port wing was buckled.

The RAF pilot, who had not been aware of any impact, found part missing from the Lightning's underside after landing at RAF Binbrook, Lincolnshire.

The Aztec was one of two such aircraft flying from Gothenburg in Sweden with members of the crew of a tug, the Irishman, which had been working in the North Sea. The RAF said the two aircraft were picked up on screens at the RAF radar station at Staxton Wood, Yorkshire.

Mr Shackley said yesterday: "I had the headphones on listening to the flight instructions and navigation directions from the flight control centre. I heard them say we were on the flight path for Otrintine, and the Humberside, when suddenly there was a bang."

The pilot tested his controls and carried on. Mr Shackley said. The other passengers were unaware of the incident because they were dozing.

A few minutes after the bang one of the Lightnings appeared over the Aztec. Mr Ramsden, aged 34, and a pilot with more than 10,000 hours of flying experience, radioed RAF Binbrook that he thought he had been struck by one of their aircraft.

Lease-Air Ltd, which owns the Aztec, said a flight plan was filed at Gothenburg and followed with the time of take-off to Kirmington. Officials at the Humberside airport confirmed that they had received the flight plan.

Yesterday RAF officers received a report of injury at RAF Binbrook.

IMF ministers agree on gold

Finance ministers at the International Monetary Fund meeting in Jamaica agreed yesterday to have reached a new agreement for the ending of gold's role in the monetary system and the continuation of floating currencies. But the pact envisages an eventual return to fixed exchange rates. The way has also been cleared for the IMF to go ahead with the sale of up to 25 million ounces of gold.

Mixed reaction to EEC report
Reaction to the Tindemans report among politicians in London, whether supporters or opponents of the European Community was less than enthusiastic. They found it a document reflecting the doubts and hesitations of many of the member states.

12m on strike in Italy
The collapse of the Italian Government coincided with a strike by 12 million public employees and demands by three political parties that they had received secret CIA funds. A Milan newspaper called for an end to political quarrelling.

Israel-US discord
Talks in Washington between Mr Allon, the Israeli Foreign Minister, and Dr Kissinger, are not going well. The Americans believe that the Arabs can be brought to tolerate Israel provided enough concessions are made. The Israelis do not believe it and fear being subjected to a salami process.

Overtime ban threat by miners' leaders

The executive of the National Union of Mineworkers have decided to impose a national overtime ban unless the National Coal Board agrees to plans to close Llanelli colliery. Derbyshire, because of dust regulations preventing dust levels as an excuse for closing uneconomic pits.

Higher water rate
Water rates for four million households in the Thames Water Authority area are likely to go up by a fifth, or about £2 a year, from April. That is partly because of the House of Lords decision on the sewerage charge test case. The revenue budget is £22m, compared with £17m this year, but despite the increase it is not keeping pace with inflation.

Threat by Iceland
Iceland threatened to break off diplomatic relations with Britain if British warships continued their alleged ramming of Icelandic gunboats. It also decided to demand a special meeting at the Atlantic Council on the two-month old war.

Airline pact: British Airways stewards have signed an interim agreement to work on the Concorde when its inaugural flight takes place on January 21.

Training teachers: Fifty-three new colleges of higher education will play a large part in training the future all-graduate teaching profession.

Cairo: Mrs Thatcher urged by Egyptian leaders to consider ease for including PLO in peace talks.

Winter warmth: A Special Report on the problems of house heating at a time of escalating fuel costs.

On other pages

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Letters: On terrorism in Northern Ireland, from Professor Bernard Crick and others; Ringtons, from G. C. Longbridge; Luggendun, AIP, and Mr Ian Bell.

Leading articles: Italy: General tax or special charge? A Bishop of Europe.
Features, pages 9 and 14
David Howell, MP, says time is running out for the Government's big spenders; Bernard Levin on Sir Gerard Eades; Andrei Gromyko on the Russian dis-ident; whose cause has been ignored.

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Mr Chou En-lai; Mr J. E. Lander.
Arts, page 8
David Robinson on films in London; William Mazon on The Rhinoceros and The Village (Coliseum); Alan Coren on Tombs and Schooldays (BBC); concert notices by Alan Blyth and Paul Griffiths.

Sport, pages 6 and 7
Football: FA term down request to play on Sundays Motor Racing: March team launch New Formula One car: Racing, Sandown Park and Baydon Park prospects.

Business News, pages 12-23
Stock markets: GBs were again in a sluggish mood, with a slight rise in the FT index closed 0.7 up to 290.5.
Financial Editor: Allied Breweries to cut 60 per cent; first half losses from ERF; more news money for Brown Boveri Ltd.
Business features: A lesson in performance from Japanese industry; Kenneth G. Grant: A limited future for Europe's "satellite"; David Blake.

Business Diary: What Turner and Newall can expect from the new man in the driving seat.

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HOME NEWS

Miners' leaders threaten national overtime ban over closure of pit because of dust hazard

By Our Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday threatened a national overtime ban unless the National Coal Board abandons plans to close a Derbyshire pit because of dust.

The executive of the National Union of Mineworkers decided by 18 votes to seven to demand withdrawal of the closure threat hanging over Langwith colliery and to seek the revocation of a pilot heading to test the validity of the management's contention that a new seam is unsafe.

If the coal board refuses to meet the union's demand, a national ban on overtime similar to those before the 1972 and 1974 strikes will be enforced without a pithead ballot of the members.

Behind the unexpected show of militancy lie union fears that the coal board is using tough new regulations governing the permissible level of airborne dust as a pretext to close uneconomic pits.

Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the NUM, said after yesterday's meeting: "If the board is going to start closing pits because of problems with the dust regulations then I am afraid a lot of pits are going to be in jeopardy."

The executive had been incensed at the board's sudden change of tactics and the Langwith closure proposal. At first the board had insisted that the new seam, only 2ft 10in thick, would extend the life of the 900-man colliery, was uneconomic.

Later it said it could not be

worked at a level of airborne dust permissible under the new regulations introduced last September. Without the seam Langwith would have to close in two years although the men would be found work at collieries near by short of labour.

The issue will be raised in talks with the coal board on January 22 but the executive is not likely to order industrial action before its meeting on February 12. Although coal stocks are high, too high for the miners' sense of security, industrial action on that scale would be serious.

The NUM executive did not choose the most militant option put forward by the Derbyshire area whose members are already operating an overtime ban, for an immediate national extension of their action. Instead it voted for a compromise formula put forward by Mr Sidney Vincent, the Lancashire miners' leader, which gives the board time to change its mind.

A milder proposal from Mr Tom Bartle, of the Durham mechanics, that they should seek assurances from the board, and failing that, call a special executive meeting to discuss action, was rejected by 14 votes to 11.

A coal board official said last night: "The board is, of course, fully prepared to hear the union's views on the proposal to phase out Langwith colliery over three years because it is running out of workable reserves."

"There are two main ways of

getting information about coal seams: to drill bore holes from the surface or to tunnel underground. The board has drilled bore holes and obtained samples of the coal seams to the east of Langwith and the strata above and below it.

"Our examination shows that, because of the thickness of the seam and the nature of the strata, the coal cannot be worked without taking excessive dust with it, and that would inevitably cause health difficulties. We cannot think of driving an underground tunnel costing up to £1m without providing much more additional information."

Ironically, the miners' decision to threaten an overtime ban came just before the NUM executive read letters from Mr Wilson and Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, repeating the Government's pledge to maintain investment in the coal industry.

The letters were mentioned during the debate on industrial action, when Mr Gormley said the coal board closure proposal ran counter to the plan for coal which committed the Government to continuing support for coal.

Miners' wages will also figure in the talks on January 22. The union has demanded that increases rise to white collar staff allowed under the cost-of-living rules should be trimmed to 6.6, and that the miners should be allowed to have the £6 which has been added as a supplement to everyone else's wages put on their basic rates.

Diary, page 14



Men of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment being taken to a Hercules aircraft at RAF Lyneham yesterday for their flight to Northern Ireland as part of the army reinforcements.

Loyalists in angry mood

Continued from page 1

forces. It is believed that military intelligence reports on their state of mind and their arms capability are one reason that persuaded the Government to call in the SAS men.

With an eye on Monday's important Commons debate about Northern Ireland, loyalist political leaders yesterday issued

two of the most intransigent statements yet to have emerged during the latest stage of the Ulster crisis.

The leaders of the dominant United Ulster Unionist Coalition completely ruled out the possibility of joining any coalition government with Roman Catholic politicians, even one established on a temporary basis to deal exclusively with terrorism, an idea favoured by Mr Rees, the Secretary of State.

Rejecting the suggestion outright, the three leaders of the UUUC said: "Such a government, instead of being effective

in the eradication of terrorism, would only be a stop-gap Administration which would be powerless to take the steps necessary to deal with the IRA."

It would, however, cover the Wilson Administration's real intention for Ulster, which is a united Ireland and prepare the way for that to take place.

In addition, Mr Ernest Baird, who heads the United Ulster Unionist Movement, the break-away group from the Vanguard Party, warned the British Parliament that the convention report should be accepted or the people of Ulster would begin preparing for what he called "the final conflict."

To demonstrate their solidarity and draw up a plan of action, more than 150 loyalist representatives will meet later today at an hotel on the banks of Lough Erne, in Co Fermanagh.

IRA pledge: Provisional IRA leaders indicated last night that if "loyalist" assassinations stopped, so would revenge strikes by republicans.

A statement issued in Dublin said: "The IRA have never initiated sectarian killings, and sectarianism of any kind is abhorrent to the republican movement and contrary to its philosophy."

Identity of SAS man is kept secret

By Robert Fisk

The man in charge of operations of the Special Services contingent in Ulster, comes from Northern Ireland himself. The identity of a soldier, whose official title is Director of the SAS and Special Forces, is meant to be closely guarded secret.

He is, however, a colonel who was born in western Ulster and who previously served in the Royal Irish Rangers at Enniskillen in Co Fermanagh.

Meanwhile the Government decision to publicize the activities of the special anti-terrorist units of the regiment has had other results. Last night the BBC decided to show the taken of the SAS at its Herford barracks about six years ago but never transmitted the tape.

The film seen on National and lasting 12 minutes, shows soldiers in training at the camp and practising on an assault course. It also described their linguistic training. According to the film, the soldiers attended a camp where they learnt Malay, Chinese and Russian as well as other languages.

The film claimed that all the SAS men had a higher IQ than other regular soldiers and that the majority of the men at Herford failed the course. It did not identify the soldiers, who were not seen in close-up, although they wore uniforms. The BBC apparently felt that it could not show the film until last night when it received permission from the Ministry of Defence.

Ministry officials who watched the film yesterday had no exception to details of the soldiers' three-week presentation course or the illustration of hand-to-hand combat, but they were not happy with a sequence that showed an SAS man about to strangle a suspected "enemy" with wire. That section of the film was not shown last night.

Hospital's junior doctors to resume action

Junior doctors at St. James' Hospital, Dublin, will resume their action after a three-day strike.

A spokesman said the action would take the form of a 40-hour week, leaving the accident and emergency department understaffed for two days a week. Casualties would have to go to St. Vincent's or St. James'.

Other junior doctors in E.R. will meet in the afternoon to consider similar action if the dispute with the Government over their contracts, a spokesman for the junior doctors' union said.

Dr Wally Sakala, militant chairman of the north-east junior doctors' union and a national executive member, described the Reading decision as irresponsible.

Cathedral repair bill

A pinasse blown from the roof of Worcester Cathedral through the roof by the recent gales may cost £100,000 to repair.

Definitions of violence

Anthony Arblaster discusses attitudes to violence in the Times Higher Education Supplement published today. Barbara Hardy reviews new books about Jane Austen, and Sir Kilmer discusses the correspondence of Isaac Newton.

Four million face £2 water rate increase

By Christopher Warman

Local Government Correspondent

Water rates for four million householders in the Thames Water Authority area, covering London and much of the Home Counties, are likely to be increased by a fifth in April, for 1976-77.

Part of the increase is the result of the recent House of Lords ruling that the authority cannot charge for sewerage connected to main drainage are not liable to pay sewerage charges.

Although the overall increase in charges, which will be recommended to a meeting of the authority next Thursday, has been set at 19.9 per cent, the general services charge may be increased by as much as 38 per cent.

Before the Lords' decision in the Daymond case it was estimated that the general services charge would have to go up by about 17 per cent. It has now been more than doubled for all premises connected to main drainage.

The bill will mean an increase of about £2 on the average bill of £13.50. The general services charge, which is made up of about 98 per cent sewerage and

2 per cent "community benefit" services, such as pollution prevention, fisheries and recreation, will add a similar amount to premises on main drainage, giving an average domestic bill of £15.77 in 1976-77.

Mr Timothy Whitley, chairman of the authority's finance subcommittee, said yesterday that it was recommending to the full authority a capital budget of £35m next year. That amounted to an increase of £5m, but in real terms it is a reduction of 10 per cent.

A total of £70m was already spoken, leaving £15m for new work. Only a sixth of the amount sought by the authority's agents, including local authorities, had been allowed.

The revenue budget is £202m, compared with £170m for the current year, which reflects an increase below the cost of inflation.

Mr Whitley estimated that the Thames Water Authority would have to refund £10m to £12m. The administrative cost of making the refunds would be about £1m, but the Government has said that no part of the costs will fall on local authorities.

Leading article, page 15

53 new colleges for tomorrow's teachers

By David Hencke of The Times Higher Education Supplement

A new generation of 53 colleges of higher education is to be given the chief responsibility for training the country's future all-graduate teaching profession.

Figures from the Department of Education and Science show that when reorganization of the 155 colleges of education is completed in 1981 more than 100 new colleges will be created. The new colleges will be created by merging two or more colleges of education.

Out of work: The National Union of Teachers has alleged that many more teachers are unemployed than the 3,311 registered as looking for posts in schools by the Department of Employment's Professional and Executive Register (a Staff Reporter writes).

In a survey of 786 unemployed teachers published today the NUT discloses that more than half had not registered, and therefore could not have been included in the official statistics.

Many of the 786 teachers in the NUT survey are among those who replied to an appeal for information about teacher unemployment by Mr Fred Jarvis, the union's general secretary, in September. The teachers who joined the "unemployed teachers" have not yet found jobs.

The Department of Education and Science said the NUT survey was based on a self-selected, not a random, sample and that some teachers not registered with the Professional and Executive Register might have jobs, although not in teaching.

Dr Harry Judge, director of the Department of Educational Studies, Oxford University, a member of the James committee, also suggested that the department's solution might create too many small, weak colleges.

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Many of the 786 teachers in the NUT survey are among those who replied to an appeal for information about teacher unemployment by Mr Fred Jarvis, the union's general secretary, in September. The teachers who joined the "unemployed teachers" have not yet found jobs.

The Department of Education and Science said the NUT survey was based on a self-selected, not a random, sample and that some teachers not registered with the Professional and Executive Register might have jobs, although not in teaching.

Dr Harry Judge, director of the Department of Educational Studies, Oxford University, a member of the James committee, also suggested that the department's solution might create too many small, weak colleges.

Most of the 53 new colleges of higher education have been created by merging existing colleges or by merging two or more colleges of education.

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Progress in talks on Fleet Street

Leaders of five unions concerned with the production of Fleet Street newspapers and the Newspaper Publishers Association said in a joint statement yesterday that "appreciable progress" had been made during their talks aimed at securing the future of national newspapers.

The statement said: "Against a serious plight, the industry's included voluntary redundancy, pensioners and demarcation issues."

The talks are taking place because of the intention of several national newspapers to introduce computer-based printing, that would abolish many traditional jobs.

The unions have shown willingness to cooperate in the new technology as long as management do not attempt to enforce compulsory redundancies.

An encouraging sign at yesterday's talks was participation of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, which had not attended earlier joint meetings. Although the AUEW is not heavily represented in terms of manpower its crucial importance to the industry was demonstrated recently when a dispute involving its members halted production of all national newspapers except the Morning Star.

The National Graphical Association and the Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers were not represented at the talks. In addition to the AUEW the unions taking part were the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel, the electricians' union and the National Union of Journalists.

The statement added: "Appreciable progress was made and it was agreed that both sides would require to carry out considerable investigation in a number of areas prior to the next joint meeting, which will take place on January 16."

Plea for staff to work longer year than pupils

From Tim Devlin Education Correspondent

Teachers should be compelled by law to work at least two weeks of the year longer than their pupils, Dame Margaret Thatcher said yesterday.

She told the conference that her plan would "lead to greater efficiency and professionalism and avoid loss of teaching-learning time and avoid muddle at the beginning and end of term."

Her proposals were attacked by Mr Frederick Smithies, chairman of the education committee of the National Association of Schoolmasters. He told me: "We object to any proposal that would diminish teachers' annual holiday entitlements."

But he said there would be no objection to the plan if it meant that the pupils' term time was cut by two weeks.

Dame Margaret told the conference that as teachers now commanded professional salaries it could no longer be argued that their low pay was compensated for by long holidays and a relatively short working day. Their working conditions and hours should now be clarified.

The good teacher had always assumed that she would take work home and do extra-curricular activities after school as well as coming in before the beginning of term and staying on after the end. "But lots of teachers who may be very effective in the classroom do not do these things, and some heads find it difficult to have a staff conference after school hours or in the holidays," she said.

Pickets before court after scenes outside shipyard

From Our Correspondent

Birkenhead

Magistrates at Bromborough, Merseyside, heard charges yesterday arising out of scenes outside the Cammell Laird shipyard last August when 11 pickets were arrested on two days. All pleaded not guilty to charges including assault on police officers and obstruction in their duty.

Charges of using threatening behaviour and behaving noisily and turbulently were withdrawn by the prosecution.

The bench dismissed charges of assault against Brian Edward Robinson, aged 29, of Halewood,

George Henry Spotswood, aged 44, of Birkenhead, and Michael Watling, aged 31, of Tranmere. They found Mr Spotswood guilty of obstructing a police officer, and Gerard McMullen, aged 40, of Huyton, guilty of assaulting and obstructing a police officer. They dismissed a charge of obstruction denied by William Doran, aged 31, also of Huyton.

Sentences were deferred. Mr Richard Nicholson, for the prosecution, said the charges related to incidents when workers employed by Watney, which had been given a contract, were denied access by workers from another firm.

The Civil Aviation Authority spoke strongly yesterday in favour of a scheme by which airline passengers who are overbooked by airlines and turned off flights would receive compensation.

The amount of such compensation would be a matter for discussion between the authority and the airlines, but the authority appears to want a scheme similar to the enforced by its opposite number in the United States, the Civil Aeronautics Board.

Under the American scheme passengers receive compensation, up to a maximum of £100, for the flight they miss. If they have booked a flight dependent on the first flight they miss through overbooking.

An inquiry by the authority into the airlines' practice of overbooking passengers to safeguard themselves against loss (because some people book seats but fail to arrive at the airport)

Refund plan for overbooked air travellers put forward

By Our Air Correspondent

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Six remanded on charge of abduction

Six London men appeared at

Greater Manchester Magistrates' Court, Greater Manchester, yesterday, charged with abducting Mr Victor Ormond Scott, aged 28, his wife, Diana, aged 26, and their daughter, Chantrell, aged seven months, from their home in Eccleston Place, Salford, on January 3. All six were remanded in custody until next Monday.

They were: Barry Stevenson Joseph, aged 24, of Prendergast Road, Blackhead, Epsom, Surrey; aged 37, of Bedford Avenue, Hanwell; Lucius Everard Plummer, aged 37, of Hamilton Road, Golders Green; Sedric Lushington Downer, aged 32, of Richmond Street, Hammersmith; Alfred Adolphus Harvey, aged 45, of Foxberry Road, Brockley; and Raphael Boyd, aged 39, of Tuscan Road, Woolwich.

Cabin staff agree to work on Concorde

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

British Airways stewards and stewardesses have signed an interim agreement to operate services with the Concorde with fare-paying passengers from January 21, the airline announced yesterday.

Training for the cabin staff began yesterday at the BA school at Cranborne, near Bournemouth airport, in London, and should be completed just before the first flight leaves on Wednesday week for Bahrain.

The cabin staff will use the initial services with the Concorde to assess their workload before they start the full-time service to British Airways. An agreement has yet been signed by the airline with its pilots to fly the 1,350 mph airliner, but British Airways senior managers to whom I spoke yesterday

day appeared confident that such a deal will be completed, within the Government's £5 limit, by the end of the week.

A third barrier to the opening of supersonic services on January 21, the refusal of overflights by countries in the Middle East, appeared yesterday to be on the verge of being overcome. Saudi Arabia has now agreed that the Concorde may boom its way across her territory. Syria is apparently ready to sign an agreement, and Lebanon will follow.

But while the more apparent obstacles are being gradually cleared from the path of the Concorde, BA remains conscious that it will be starting supersonic services on the slimmest of margins. While Air France has already received two Concorde ready for the opening of its supersonic services in Rio de Janeiro on Janu-

ary 21, BA will not take delivery of its first aircraft until January 15, only six days before the first flight.

There will be no reserve Concorde on January 21 if anything goes wrong with the first one. A total of 38 fare-paying passengers are booked on the first flight, but the airline expects the rest of the 100 seats on the aircraft being allocated to guests. BA has had the galling task of turning away numerous passengers booked for the first flight willing to pay the return fare of £576.10.

Concorde cabin staff started their training yesterday in a plywood mock-up of the aircraft at Cranborne. Costing just £12,750, against the £23m BA is paying for each of its five real Concorde, and open down one side the mock-up is complete with galleys that work and wooden lavatories.

Uhlmann retains chess lead by beating Hartston

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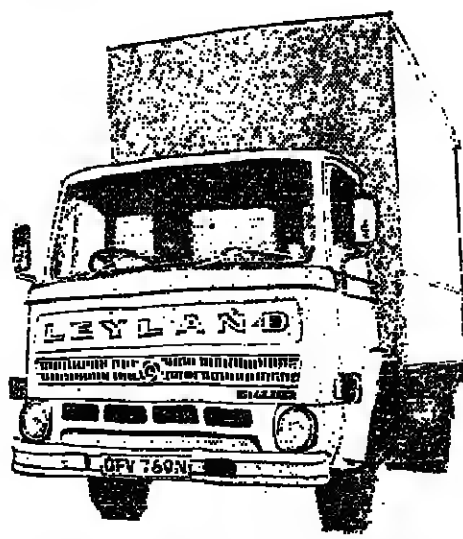
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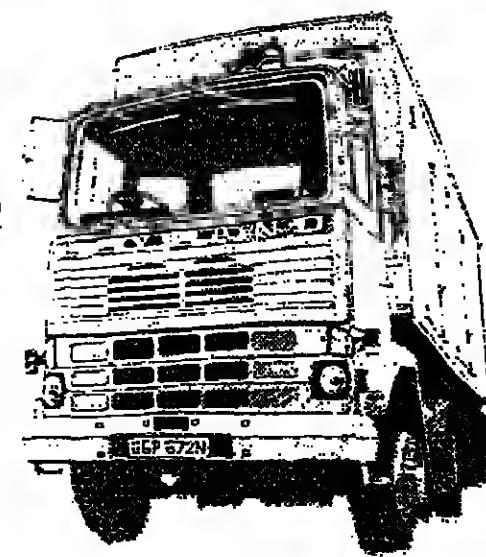
Terrier: the High Street trader's truck. Greatest capacity and payload, plus an engine that's proved itself 100,000 times over.



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Marathon: one for Europe. The 38-tonner with a specification superior to any truck at its weight. High-powered engine maintains high efficiency over long distances.

150

HOME NEWS

Six years' detention for young Scot on explosives charges

Raymond Lester, aged 18, a Clydebank shipyard apprentice, who dreamt up a secret army for "freedom" Scotland, was sentenced at the High Court in Glasgow yesterday to six years in a young offenders institution.

His workmate, Robert Malar, also aged 18, of Scotstounhill, Glasgow, was given four years for his part in two of the offences. A boy aged 15 who was involved in one of the charges, was given a suspended one-year sentence and left the court with his parents.

Mr Lester, of Gooseholm Crescent, Dumbarton, was charged with causing an explosion on the railway line near Dumbarton East railway station on September 15 last.

He also pleaded guilty to two charges of placing explosives on the railway line near Dumbarton East railway station on June 2 and the Clyde Tunnel, Glasgow in September, while acting as Mr Malar.

The 17-year-old, Dumbarton, was found guilty on the railway line charge.

Sentence: Mr Lester, Lord Thompson said, "Youths like you seem to think that you are big enough and clever enough to act in defiance of the law and to act in such a way as to endanger life and to put at risk the property of ordinary law-abiding citizens."

Referring to the "Army for Freeing Scotland", Lord Thompson said: "It is the right of every person in this country to belong to any organisation provided it is not an illegal organisation, but membership of such an organisation cannot be held in these courts as an excuse for doing criminal acts which endanger the lives of ordinary citizens." He said the boy was plainly led astray by Mr Lester, who was the undoubted ringleader.

Sentence: Mr Malar, Lord Thompson said: "I understand that you said to the police that you just did it for kicks. There

are far too many potentially dangerous acts being carried out today up and down the country by young people just for kicks, and the sooner these practices are eliminated from our national life the better it will be for everybody and the safer it will be for a whole lot of innocent people."

Mr James Milne, QC, for the boy aged 15, said he had academic potential, but lacked judgment of the people he was getting involved with.

Mr James Milne, QC, said the boy had been involved in a trapped bank bomb was neutralised after streets had been closed and a restaurant evacuated.

When they were discussing Scottish nationalism Mr Lester asked Mr Malar if he wanted to join the army, and Mr Malar agreed. Mr Lester said that the army's main targets were the banks and government-owned buildings. There was no question of any organisation and Mr Malar never had contact with anyone other than Mr Lester.

Both squad formed: The two explosions and the bomb led outside the bank in Glasgow led to the formation of Scotland's first bomb squad. A Special Branch detective superintendent, Mr Malar, with 20 senior crime fighters, with a bomb expert as an adviser. Their investigations led them to the bombers sentenced yesterday.

The bombs, which caused little damage and injured no one, consisted of weedkiller and sugar in bottles, with a timing device. They were made by Mr Lester, and tested in a disused quarry near his home. But they were capable of killing and the fear that the bombers would become more expert made the bomb squad's task urgent.

The APS has on link with the more sinister Army of the Provisional Government, which figured in a High Court trial earlier this year, or the Tartan Army, which claimed responsibility for oil pipeline explosions.

Fears over role of executive in assembly

From Our Correspondent Edinburgh

The White Paper on devolution creates the risk of a legislative body being subordinated to a member of the executive, according to the Faculty of Advocates of Scotland.

Mr Donald Ross, Dean of the Faculty, wrote to Mr Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland, that as one of the few surviving pre-Union Scottish institutions it would naturally welcome any proposal to enable the distinctive character of Scots law and of the Scottish legal system to be preserved and developed in the interests of the Scottish people.

Moreover the faculty would welcome any proposal that would enable Scotland to play a fuller part in the development of the European Community where Scots law in particular had a special contribution to make as a bridge.

The White Paper had not dealt adequately with the constitutional implications of a proposed assembly, and had failed to face the serious practical difficulties that were a necessary consequence of the proposals.

"Although the White Paper describes the proposed assembly as being constitutionally subordinate to Parliament, the mechanics of its operation mean that in practice it will be constitutionally subordinate to the Secretary of State for Scotland; that is, to a member of the United Kingdom executive."

The concept of a legislative body dealing with matters affecting the life, liberty and other interests of the individual being constitutionally subordinate to a member of the executive is offensive to the principles established in both Scotland and the rest of the United Kingdom.

The maintenance of a proper balance of power between the legislature and the executive was of fundamental constitutional importance.



The capsule of the Apollo 10 spacecraft being unloaded at the Science Museum, London, yesterday, where it will be on view in about a month.

£1m repairs needed to five-year-old estate

By a Staff Reporter

More than £1m is to be spent on repairs to a five-year-old council estate at Aldershot, Hampshire, which has become almost uninhabitable because of allegedly shoddy workmanship by the builders.

The bill, about two thirds of the original cost of building the estate, is expected to be met by ratepayers because the builders and the consultant architects have both gone into liquidation.

Details of the conditions of the 461 homes on the Tices Meadow estate were contained in a report published yesterday by the National Building Agency, which was called in when the local Rushmore council realized the extent of the work that has to be done.

The report says that every one of the 180 maisonettes, 144 flats, 133 two and three-bedroom houses and four shops and flats needs repainting. Roofs, balconies, outside walls and windows on the estate, which was semi-detached, have been damaged by rainwater, which leaked through windows, doors and walls between buildings. Residents have had to battle to keep rainwater out, furnishings have been ruined, and in some cases

woodwork is so rotten that a finger can be pushed through.

The council is now waiting for the Department of the Environment to allow it to raise loans and subsidies. It is also hoping for a government grant.

The report on the estate, which was built for the now defunct Aldershot Borough Council and houses more than a thousand people, says repairs would cost £350,000, but that takes no account of fees, inflation and the cost of rehousing families while work is carried out.

Council officials have meanwhile been asked to prepare a report on how the situation was allowed to come about.

Mr Bob O'Donoghue, chief executive of Rushmore council, told me: "It could have happened only because of the lack of supervision, and bad workmanship. It happened under another council, but we now have the responsibility and we have no recourse against anyone. This estate is a disaster. In some cases one can push one's fingers through the front door."

Repairs, which will start as soon as the Department of the Environment gives approval, are expected to take a year to complete.

'Cruelty and filth' at turkey farm

From Our Correspondent York

The owner of a large turkey farm, with wholesale and retail outlets, yesterday admitted nine offences, seven of them under the Food and Drugs Act, and a dog lack of cleanliness in the rearing shed, failure to protect food, and failure to ensure that staff wore protective clothing.

George Woodall, aged 44, of House Farm, near South Milford, North Yorkshire, was fined £230 and ordered to pay £125 costs by magistrates at Selby. His other offences included allowing unapproved slaughter methods and permitting unnecessary pain or distress to turkeys.

Mr John Sleight, for the prosecution, said two officials from the local council's environmental health department found "a horrifying situation

of cruelty, filth and disregard for regulations which could have led to an outbreak of food poisoning among the public." Three thousand turkeys were crammed into a shed measuring 200ft by 45ft.

There the birds lived together for 16 weeks, before facing a slow, painful death, Mr Sleight said.

He said the equipment normally used to stun the turkeys before they were slaughtered had broken down; instead their necks were slit in such a way that blood drained from them slowly, and it took a bird up to four minutes to lose consciousness and several minutes to die.

Staff sometimes took a tea break while live birds pecked not only at dying birds but also at dressed turkeys.

During the health officials' visit four dogs, two terriers and two Labrador, were seen in the shed increasing the risk of disease, particularly salmonella poisoning, among humans.

"The pleasure of Christmas dinners for anyone who bought one of these turkeys would have been ruined if they had known how the turkeys had been killed and dressed," Mr Sleight said.

Ten thousand turkeys a year were said to be slaughtered at the farm.

Mr Woodall's employees, Mrs Joan Wormald, of Castleford, West Yorkshire, admitted slaughtering in an unapproved manner. She was fined £5.

Mr Roy Manock, the solicitor representing both sides, said the farm was now being brought up to the required standard.

'Many immigrant catering staff working illegally'

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

About 84 per cent of 330 foreign catering staff in London who replied to a questionnaire were working illegally, the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants said yesterday. Most had been admitted as visitors, students or on a pair visa.

Although employers knew the staff were working illegally, in only about half the cases had steps been taken to remedy it, the council said. "Many of these people had asked for work permits to be applied for but a lot of employers did not know full well they were using employees illegally and exploiting them."

The questionnaire, which was sent to 600 workers, was prepared by the council to support a plea to the Government.

The council said yesterday that the Department of Employment had recognized the need for more catering workers to overcome shortages by promising last year to issue specially

Oriental works return to 1973 boom prices

By Geraldine Norman

Room Correspondent

A sale of oriental works of art at Sotheby's, London, yesterday proved the auction room's most successful yet, totalling a record £68,000, with only 2 per cent unsold. The room was packed: the Italians and Americans were particularly strong buyers, but there was also a healthy contingent from the Far East and many Continental countries.

Prices for oriental furniture and Japanese earthenware in particular showed a marked increase in prices. They are probably now back to the boom levels of 1973. There was, however, a slight resistance to paying more for the topmost lots; bidders were keen to acquire two vases at £500 than one at £1,000.

The top prices of the day were paid, as forecast, for large Canton vases. A pair 53 inches high made £5,000 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000). A pair 47 inches high, £2,805 (estimate £1,000 to £2,000). An elaborate Japanese lacquer cabinet with five earthenware panels, £1,705 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500). A two-tiered lacquer cabinet with a carved ivory apertures decoration (rather split and damaged) made £1,210 (estimate £800 to £1,400).

Further down the scale came the real surprises. A pair of elegant Chinese hardwood chairs made £440 (estimate £250 to £350). An Indian carved wooden side cabinet, £320 (estimate £70 to £150). A pair of earthenware vases, £115 (estimate £80 to £200).

To the Street Sotheby's held a room sale of silver which totalled £27,083, with 11 per cent unsold. The top price of £1,540 was paid by a 19th-century Italian model of St Michael weighing 12 oz. It had been sold for £1,000 at a London auction room for a quarter of the price only a month or two back, demonstrating the advantage to be gained from the international circulation of Sotheby's catalogues.

Phillips yesterday were selling oriental and period costume, embroidery and lace. The sale made a net total of £11,714, with only 23 lots unsold out of 205. Two Chinese robes and embroideries, particularly strong prices, made £1,000 (estimate £500 to £1,200). A pair of 18th-century French lace also went well. A fine pair of 18th-century French lace also went well. A fine pair of 18th-century French lace also went well.

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WEST EUROPE

British politicians give a mixed reception to Tindemans report on European integration

By George Clark

Politicians in London, whether committed Europeans or critics of the EEC, found the Tindemans report on European integration a document which reflected the doubts and hesitations of many of the member states.

Mr Michael Stewart, the former Foreign Secretary, who now leads the Labour delegation to the European Parliament, thought it contained a lot of generalisations and platitudes but was generally right in adopting a pragmatic approach.

He said Mr Tindemans, the Belgian Prime Minister, wanted to give the European Parliament a stronger position, equal to the Commission's, in the initiation of legislation and had suggested that the acceptance of the report would be a vote in the Council of Ministers would have to be more common.

"The vital question is whether the political will is there," Mr Stewart said.

Mr Stewart thought the proposal for a "two-speed" approach to economic and monetary union was useful. That should be an encouragement to the United Kingdom. Sir Peter Kirk, leader of the Conservative parliamentary delegation, said: "The report

is a modest attempt to move the Community on the lines we want to see adopted. But I particularly regret that although Mr Tindemans is prepared to see direct elections, he is not prepared to see any increase in the powers of the European Parliament at this stage. His economic and monetary proposals are probably too complicated to work."

In spite of the British Government's initial reluctance, Mr Tindemans' report, the Green Paper by the end of February setting out the various methods by which United Kingdom MPs could be elected directly to the European Parliament.

This will be debated in the summer, with the expectation that a Bill providing for the elections will be introduced in the 1966-67 session of Parliament.

Mr Douglas Jay, Labour MP for Battersea, North, who campaigned against Britain's membership of the EEC, said the proposals conflicted with the undertakings given by the Government in its referendum manifesto.

If such proposals were to be pressed forward, the Government would have to seek further authority both from the electors and from Parliament.

For the Liberals, Mr Russell

Johnston, MP for Inverness, who used to be in the European Parliament, said: "Tindemans is the voice of practical pragmatism. Basically, he has produced the civil service approach: what is badly lacking is a vision of the positive advantages which European integration will bring."

Charles Hargrove, writer from Paris, said the French Government is cautiously refraining from taking any official stand on the Tindemans report before the meeting of the European Council at Luxembourg in March.

But the report has already shown signs of resurrecting the controversy between nationalists and supranationalists in political parties and in the press.

There is only one point at which the Government might call it in its report on the strengthening of the powers of the Commission.

On this, President Giscard d'Estaing, whose European pragmatism is very great, agrees with his two predecessors. Progress towards European unity can only be achieved through strengthening of the powers of decision of the European Council, the supreme political organ of the Community, of which the Commission must remain the executive.

M Marchais opposes dictatorship concept

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Jan 8

Mr Georges Marchais, the French Communist leader, has proposed that his party should drop the Marxist concept of a "dictatorship of the proletariat".

He announced this important move, evidently in an attempt to improve his party's public image, in a television interview last night.

The proposal came before the party's twenty-second congress of the French Communist Party, which is intended to display its commitment to liberty. At the same time, Mr Marchais made it clear that the party had abandoned its aim of installing socialism in France or its claim to be the sole representative of the workers.

Since the party committed itself under the 1972 "common programme" to government "with the French Socialists" while the French Socialists were winning power by electoral means, its theoreticians have been increasingly confronted with the problem of how a party can seek the voters' broader support by proclaiming that it does win power, if it will install a Leninist-style dictatorship, even if on a "temporary" basis.

In his interview, Mr Marchais remarked that he agreed with a delegate's proposal to expunge the dictatorship concept—first used by Marx in the 1850s—from the party's statutes at the forthcoming congress. He said: "We are in 1976. The Communist Party is not fixed in its way of thinking. It knows how to adapt to the conditions of its times."

"Now, today, the word dictatorship does not correspond to what we want. It has an unbearable meaning contrary to our aspirations, and our theses. Even the word proletariat is no longer suitable, for we are assembling along with the working class the majority of salaried workers."

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Postwar politician takes over as Norway Premier

From Our Correspondent Oslo, Jan 8

Mr Trygve Bratteli, the Norwegian Prime Minister, announced his resignation in the Storting (Parliament) today, as presaged by the decision of the Labour Party national executive in September.

He will hand his resignation to King Olav tomorrow, and at the same time nominate as his successor Mr Odvar Nordli, who was given the unanimous support of the party leadership last year.

No drastic changes are foreseen in the new Government, which will take office next week. Mr Bratteli's resignation marks the handover from the pre-war and war generation of leading politicians to the post-war generation.

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M Ortolí criticizes European union plan

From David Cross

Brussels, Jan 8

The latest call for a two-speed approach to economic integration in the European Community came under fire from Mr M. Francisco Ortolí, the president of the European Commission.

At a press conference in Brussels, he said that a real European union could be created only by the full participation of all member states in all Community activities.

He was responding to the suggestion made by Mr Len Tindemans, the Belgian Prime Minister, in his report on European union that weaker member states like Britain and Italy should be allowed to lag behind their more prosperous partners in new moves towards economic and monetary union.

European union must retain, in respect of all matters within its competence, the principle of legal unity already recognized by the present

Community, Mr Ortolí said. Only this could provide a basis for growing solidarity between different nations.

"Moreover, it alone can provide the European union with the cohesion that will be essential, in particular at the level of its institutions, and that alone is consonant with the concept of a European identity."

The Commission has always felt that the relegation of some member countries to the status of second class citizens would gradually erode their influence on their stronger partners.

Mr Ortolí made it clear that, in his view, Mr Tindemans had been wrong to limit his horizon to immediate practical steps for greater European integration. Although it might be excessively ambitious to sketch the future of Europe at this stage, he said, it had to be decided whether what was possible now would be useful in the long term.

Programme for cleaning up the Mediterranean

From Our Correspondent Geneva, Jan 8

Experts from 34 Mediterranean countries are meeting in Geneva to discuss a programme for cleaning up the Mediterranean, which will begin this spring.

From April 1, when the first of the annual 100 million tourists arrive at resorts, about 40 marine laboratories will survey beaches and measure micro-biological pollution in the water, in coastal plankton and in edible shellfish. The expectation is that the United Nations Environment Programme (Unep), which is supplying the working class of the laboratories, will have the necessary information necessary for joint anti-pollution action by all 34 Mediterranean nations by 1978 at the latest.

The monitoring programme will be directed by Dr Stjepan Keckes, a Yugoslav biologist working for Unep, who points out that about 90 per cent of sewage and industrial pollutant from coastal countries is now going straight into the Mediterranean sea.

The solution he proposes is a combination of treatment plants and, alternatively, long pipelines to take waste into deep water.

The waste-receiving capacity of the Mediterranean is tremendous, he said. It would be the height of folly to make use of it, he said. "All-important is the right way of helping nature to do the job, ensuring in the process ample nutrient for fish life."

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Norway threat to attack submarines

From Our Correspondent Oslo, Jan 8

Norwegian forces have been ordered to attack without warning any unidentified foreign submarine discovered in Norway's territorial waters, the Defence Ministry said today.

In cases of clear violation of Norwegian territory, however, there can be no question of a warning. No advance warning is to be given before an attack is launched, a statement said.

The Ministry said that although the main purpose would be to force a submarine to the surface, the vessel would run the risk of being sunk.

There had been several violations of Norwegian territory by foreign submarines in the past few years, the Ministry recalled. In 1972 a Soviet submarine was sighted in the Barents Sea. In 1973 a Soviet submarine was sighted in the Barents Sea. In 1973 a Soviet submarine was sighted in the Barents Sea.

The Ministry added that the new rules were aimed at deterring foreign submarines from carrying out illegal operations in Norwegian waters. —Reuter.

Vauxhall's new top model, the VX 2300 GLS.

Vauxhall's new top model has air dam to cut drag

By Peter Waymark

Motoring Correspondent

Changes are announced today to the Vauxhall Victor range of large cars, replacing the Ventura, becomes the VX 2300 GLS, and there will be a VX 1800 and VX 2300 in saloon and estate versions.

The new range, which goes on sale in March at prices likely to start at about £2,600, will also include a revised VX 4/90.

The 2300 GLS is said to have the highest level of refinement yet offered on a Vauxhall. There is extra insulation and redesigned engine mounting to reduce vibration, and a new velour cloth seats, a simulated burr walnut fascia with clearer instruments, and additional carpeting.

An air dam, fitted to the front to reduce drag and give better roadholding, has built-in halogen fog lamps. The twin square headlamps have a new type of lens which gives a

better dipped beam. Other external features include a vinyl roof and new grille.

The 2300cc overhead-camshaft engine has been increased in power from 100 to 108 hp and has a modified cylinder head, larger tappets, stronger connecting rods and an automatic choke. The 3.3 litre six-cylinder engine used in the Ventura has been dropped.

The redesigned seats, fascia and headlamps are shared by other models in the range and will have a clock, lighter, inertia-reel seat belts and hazard warning lights as standard fittings. The 1799cc engine is also more powerful, developing 88 hp against 77, and has a new carburettor, manifold and air-cleaner.

Further changes in models to be announced this year should give Vauxhall an 80 per cent coverage of the British market, compared with only 50 per cent before the launch of the Chevette and Cavalier cars last year.

Fuel bill campaign urged

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Government action to help elderly people and families threatened with disconnections because they cannot pay their fuel bills was urged yesterday by Mr Max Madden, Labour MP for Sowerby. The Government should prepare a simple advice leaflet and distribute it door to door nationally, as it did with literature on the European referendum and the counter-inflation policy, he said.

Such methods, Mr Madden believes, would be more effective in reaching groups at risk than the various options likely to be discussed on Monday at an interdepartmental meeting of "fuel and industry repre-

sentatives which will be looking at how government campaigns can be improved. They are expected to consider specialized information leaflets for elderly people and children to the Save It and counter-inflation campaigns to take into account the needs of the poor.

In a letter to Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, Mr Madden said that rising energy prices had already caused real hardship to many people.

"It is resulting in disconnection of supply," the letter said. "Electricity disconnection in Yorkshire is running at 700 homes a month, and the North Eastern Gas Board is disconnecting more than 200 homes a month."

Alcohol was causing more trouble in more schools than

Teach drinking at home, educationist recommends

By Our Education Correspondent

Lessons on drinking alcohol should begin at home and at an early age, according to Mr Marcus Grant, educational director of the Alcohol Education Centre.

Writing in *Where*, the education magazine for parents, published today, he said it was illegal to give alcohol to a child under the age of five.

"I do not forbid alcohol to my six-year-old daughter, who does not appear to be developing an unnatural craving for the drug and will be just as likely when offered the choice to select diluted orange juice as diluted wine or beer," he said.

Drinking among young people was rising. A government study in 1972 had reported that by the age of 14 nine boys in ten and slightly fewer girls had some experience of drinking alcohol. Home Office statistics showed that teenage drunkenness offences had doubled in the seven years ended in 1973.

Alcohol was causing more trouble in more schools than

any other drug. It was responsible for vandalism, assaults, and unwanted pregnancies. Mr Grant said he had found that children aged 14 had no difficulty in buying it from off-licence stores.

Italian plea for end to political quarrels

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Jan 8

Signor Aldo Moro, the outgoing Italian Prime Minister, today carried out the formalities of informing the presiding officers of the two Houses of Parliament that he had been forced to resign.

The collapse last night of the Government coincides with a general strike of 12 million employees of public authorities and the allegations of renewed financing by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of Italian politicians.

The parties named in the reports as beneficiaries of secret American funds—the Christian Democrats, Socialists and Republicans—have all issued formal denials.

These denials appear to have done little to convince public opinion of the moral rectitude of their political masters. The Rome newspaper *Il Messaggero* talks bitterly this morning of the “Italian Vietnamization” and in the Socialist ranks there are those who would certainly not place their hands on their hearts and vouch for the honesty of all the party's leading personalities.

The country's economic difficulties were in themselves enough to demand the scene. The Milan *Corriere della Sera* calls today for an end to quarrelling and immediate application to the task of finding a government for the country, so that the governmental crisis does not become the irreversible crisis of the first republic.

There is a widespread feeling that the Socialist movement is the main weight of responsibility for putting forward proposals to give the country its thirty-eighth government since the fall of Fascism as they destroyed the thing itself.

It would be facile to see a direct connexion between the decision of Signor Francesco de Martino, the Socialist leader, to bring down the government, and the reports of the CIA funds, despite the obvious surrounding Socialist motives. One reason for this obscurity is that Signor de Martino delivered his first and eventually mortal blow to the Government with an attack delivered on December 31, without apparently taking many people into his confidence.

The fact that the CIA revelations coincided with the Government's fall has nevertheless aroused some sinister interpretations here. *Il Messaggero* suggests that the attempt is being made by the Americans to prepare international public opinion for “any form of intervention” in Italian affairs.

A connexion more atmospheric than direct certainly does exist. Italian political affairs are passing through a confused and, in great part, a pessimistic phase. It was clear even before the June regional elections, which saw the Communists advance so strongly, that the Americans were taking a more critical look at Italian internal affairs. The Communist victory in June simply sharpened the State Department's sense of urgency.

The Socialist move in abandoning Signor Moro was made under the shadow of the Communist question.

Portugal decides to reintroduce subsidies on food

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, Jan 8

The Portuguese Government promised today to ensure supplies of essential foodstuffs and to hold down prices. Faced with shortages of meat and dairy products, and a developing left-wing campaign over food, it announced after an all-night Cabinet meeting that subsidies would be reintroduced on potatoes, meat, fish, eggs, and fruit.

A sum of 15,000,000 escudos (£20m) has been earmarked to finance the subsidies, according to one report.

A spokesman said measures would be taken to prohibit the hoarding of food. Offenders would be punished severely. Dr. Agostinho Zúñiga, the Minister of Finance, said the situation was difficult, but the alarm being expressed was not justified.

Paris starts to rescue its artistic past

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 8

The ironwork trellises and awnings which subvert the magnificent facade of the Paris Metro stations dating from the beginning of the century are to be classified for artistic protection, M. Michel Guy, French Secretary for Cultural Affairs, has decided.

Another “rescue operation” to save Paris's artistic past was launched earlier this week when work began on the reconstruction on a new site of one of the iron and glass halls, which before its demolition in 1969 made up Les Halles, the historic central vegetable market.

Herr Schmidt to visit London

Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and Herr Geoschler, his Foreign Minister, will visit London on February 6 and 7 at the invitation of Mr Wilson.

Herr Schmidt will be the guest of Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, on February 6 before going to Chequers next day for talks with Mr Wilson. The Chancellor will give a talk at the Foreign Affairs Club on February 6.

OVERSEAS

Captured South African soldier tells journalists of his unit's role in Angola civil war

From Will Ellsworth-Jones
Luanda, Jan 8

Seven prisoners of war—three South African and four from the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita)—were produced by the Soviet-backed Popular Movement (MPLA) at a press conference today. It was as part of a propaganda campaign in the Angolan civil war, in which both sides are heaving in mind this weekend's Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit conference.

The prisoners were “put on show” by the MPLA to demonstrate that despite denials by Dr Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, South African and Unita troops are fighting together. The MPLA assertion was substantiated by the three young South African servicemen, although they emphasised that they never fought alongside their black allies but in separate units, “pursuing the same enemy”.

Mr João Filipe Martins, the Information Minister of the People's Republic of Angola, said:

OAU told of Unita peace plan

Continued from page 1

and Principé, Congo, Mali, Mauritania, Algeria, Somalia, Togo, Madagascar, Liberia, Senegal (formerly Dahomey), Nigeria, Equatorial Guinea, Tanzania, Sudan, Guinea, Burundi, Ghana and Chad.

No one has recognised the government of the MPLA, although the national Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) and the Angolan National Liberation Front (FNLA).

A number of other states are thought to be on the brink of supporting the MPLA, notably Ethiopia, which has reserved its position until after the conference has started, and Uganda. President Amin of Uganda will be chairing the heads of state meeting.

However, there seems to be a general opinion in favour of the MPLA, the moderate African states are determined to resist any blanket support for the MPLA and instead will press for a resolution calling for an end of all foreign involvement in Angola.

This group is understood to include Zaire, Kenya and a number of French-speaking West African countries. Surprisingly Zambia, which hitherto had tended to favour Unita, has indicated that it will go along with a majority OAU decision.

On one point there was unanimity among all delegates—in their condemnation of South Africa's involvement in Angola.

“How can African countries give their support to Unita when it is backed by South African racists... We hope that these countries do not sleep any more. They must wake up because the freedom of Africa is at stake.”

All seven prisoners were captured in the same area on Sunday on the road between Gongo and Colunguanga, about 250 miles south-east of Luanda. Riksmans Andriks Potgieter, aged 19, who gave his army number as 72270050, said: “We were expecting an attack and we were just digging in for the day when we were captured. We had been told we would be going back to South Africa on Monday, the day after we were captured.”

Riksmans Potgieter, who seemed best able to cope with the task of having to stand as a prisoner of war and answer questions from the press, answered most of the questions while the two other South Africans, Piet Groenewald, aged 19, and Lodewijk Kishoff, aged 18, remained relatively quiet. The rifleman had documents

which made it clear that he was a conscript in the South African Army and not in any way a mercenary. He said he had been in Angola for three weeks after being flown from South Africa to the town of Ceta, about 85 miles east of Novo Redondo.

“In my area there were about 250 South African soldiers. We were told before we left that the MPLA and the Cubans were fighting together and we were going to fight against them.”

“We have never been fighting in the same place as Unita, but we have fought for the same purposes. They supplied the infantry and we supplied the artillery and the people who drive the armoured cars.”

The Unita prisoners, rather more overwhelmed by the press conference than the South Africans, said that they had been forced to fight and that the fighting was available. However, Lodewijk Kishoff said that the South African troops had their own medical sides who had helped the Unita troops.

The Ghanaian delegate, who was the only speaker to come openly in support of the MPLA, said that South Africa was totally opposed to the MPLA it was therefore logical that the OAU should support the left movement—a suggestion that produced a round of applause. Significantly, not one speaker referred to either the Soviet Union or Cuba when denouncing foreign involvement in Angola.

The Cubans have turned up in Addis Ababa in some strength. A five-man delegation arrived yesterday and Señor Osmany Cienfuegos, a senior member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, is due shortly.

While most interest has been focused on the pros and cons of supporting the MPLA, Mr Jorge Sangumba, the Foreign Minister of Unita, made a strong plea to the OAU to avoid precipitate action. Unita controls the southern part of the country where about half the population lives, and Mr Sangumba said that even if the OAU recognized the MPLA “the people of Angola would not”.

Mr Sangumba said that if the OAU did accept the MPLA as the Government of Angola, the war would turn into another Vietnam, this time with the Soviet Union and not the Americans on the side of a minority Government. He outlines a four-point peace

plan which Dr Jonas Savimbi, Unita's leader, will place before the conference. This calls for an immediate ceasefire, the establishment of a neutral peace-keeping force, a conference under OAU supervision of the three movements inside Angola, followed by the formation of a Government of national unity and free elections.

However, Unita is labouring under the strain of its South African connexion. Although Mr Sangumba emphasized that Unita had also called for South Africa's withdrawal, Moscow, Jan 8. The Soviet Union denied today that its warships were off the Angolan coast. But it stopped short of saying that no Soviet military vessels were in the general area.

In Washington yesterday a Defence Department spokesman said a Soviet guided missile destroyer, accompanied by an oiler, was off the coast of Guinea. He added that a Soviet tank landing ship had been lying off the Angolan coast for several weeks. UPI and Reuters.

Our Nairobi Correspondent writes: President Amin today expressed deep concern at the reported movement of Soviet ships in the area. He did not name the Soviet Union, but according to Kampala Radio, he spoke of a “certain foreign power” which was sending a destroyer and arms to Angola.

Iceland threatens to break off relations

Reykjavik, Jan 8—The Icelandic Cabinet today decided to demand a special meeting of the Atlantic Council over its role in the war with Britain. It also threatened to break off diplomatic relations if British warships continued their alleged ramming of Icelandic gunboats.

There have been several collisions and near-misses in the two-month dispute over Iceland's unilaterally declared fishing limit; each side has consistently accused the other of dangerous seamanship. The last incident was yesterday when the British frigate Andromeda and the Icelandic gunboat Thor collided.

A Government statement after the Cabinet meeting also said that a senior diplomat would visit all North Atlantic Treaty Organisation countries in Europe to present Iceland's case and seek support against Britain's “unlawful use of force”.

The ambassadors to the United States and Canada and the representative at the United Nations are to be called home for briefings on the situation and the Government will ask Dr. Joseph Luns, secretary-general of NATO, to come to Reykjavik for discussions, the statement said.

Roger Bernhard writes: After analysing the collision between Andromeda and Thor, Whitehall officials have concluded that it was “a miracle” that there was not serious loss of life.

The British fear that the presence on board the gunboats Thor and Try of British television crews could have led their captives to attempt to provide a “success” after 20 days with very little to show.

So far only six British trawlers have had their warps cut in the designated fishing area, the gear being lost in only two cases. This success for British naval protection is thought to have led to feelings of frustration on the Icelandic side.

It is also feared that the gunboat commanders may be affected by an Icelandic version of the Battle of Britain spirit, which has already made them local heroes. There is no doubt in British minds that, if the same sort of “foolhardy seamanship” continues, there could be lost the Orders continue to be to avoid any provocative action.

Reconstructing what they regard as the most serious incident yet, officials say Thor put some 300 lives at risk. 240 of them being Andromeda's crew. If Andromeda had not managed to swing its stern as it accelerated to full speed, Thor would have carved straight into its engine room and living room. As it was, the British frigate, having hit a bollard and denting its own hull.

The Icelandic version is that Andromeda tried to sideswipe Thor with its stern. The British point out that the idea that the frigate would try to ram with its stern rather than its bow, where the steel is a great deal thicker.

US rejects criticism by Nigeria

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Jan 8

The State Department reacted sharply today to criticism on United States in Nigeria. The Nigerians have released the text of a letter President Ford sent to their Head of State explaining American policy in Angola, while the object of persuading the Nigerians, Nigerian radio, African moderates in bringing about a withdrawal of foreign forces from Angola.

The Nigerian press has called the letter “overbearing” and “patronizing” and claimed that it “insulted the intelligence of the black man.”

The State Department spokesman said this morning that the letter merely restated the well-known American position on Angola. The attacks on American motives, “were unjustified,” he said, “by the gratuitous impugning, in highly intemperate language, of United States motivations and objectives which have never been mentioned by Nigerian representatives in private conversations between the representatives of our two countries.”

The spokesman said that the two governments had been conducting conversations for some weeks “with mutual respect, friendship and candour, and although our two governments have not been in complete accord on this subject, we consider that there has been a large area of common agreement.”

The White House said today that it had received no official word that South Africa intended to withdraw all its troops from Angola.

Ex-dictator silent on missing archives

From Our Correspondent
Athens, Jan 8

Demetrios Ioannidis, the jailed former dictator of Greece, and four other senior officers, appeared before the Athens court martial today to answer charges about the missing archives of the EAF. ESA torture camp of the military police under the dictatorship.

The responsibility for the destruction of the archives, which contained the records of interrogation of regime opponents, many of whom hold today the highest political posts in the country, was raised during the trial.

The “accused” former commanders of the camp made use of documents suggesting they may still have access to the archives, or to copies of confessions and other incriminating material, which they may

want to use against the politicians.

Major Elias Nikolaopoulos, one of the defendants, who took over the camp after the fall of the dictatorship, said that he had spent several days burning the archives on orders from General Ioannidis. “Many of the people on our records had then become Cabinet ministers so I asked for instructions”.

The general, who was then still at large and powerful, and Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Piliouas, another defendant, who had taken over as chief of the military police, had ordered him to burn the archives. Colonel Piliouas was the dictator's confidant; is the officer who helped the Karamanlis Government in dismembering the Ioannidis security apparatus and asserting its full control and authority over the Army.

As the hearings opened today, the former dictator said he regarded this as a trial of political expediency and revenge and refused to participate in the proceedings or to defend himself. He dismissed his defence counsel on the spot.

For reasons of security the court martial convened in an improvised courtroom inside Korydallos prison, near Piraeus, where the main junta trials were held, so as to avoid the risk of moving the former dictator into Athens every day. He has been sentenced to life imprisonment on eight counts in two previous trials for the 1967 coup and the Polytechnic massacre.

The present trial is the first of three for the deposed dictator. In the next two trials he is to face charges relating to the torture of political prisoners at the camp while he was the chief of the military police.

STORM DAMAGE

A message from Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Ltd.

In order to reassure our policyholders who, following last weekend's storms, may be confused by the insurance aspects, we wish to clarify the following points:-

1. Our home insurance contracts covering houses and/or contents, do not contain an average clause. A full indemnity is therefore paid under policies for insured losses up to the sum insured.
2. Policyholders whose loss settlements indicate a degree of under-insurance will naturally be asked to rectify the position since our home insurance contracts are issued on the basis that the insurance is for full value.
3. The majority of policyholders, insuring the contents of their home under one of our 'Blue Plan' series of contracts, are entitled to FULL REPLACEMENT VALUE of furniture, carpets and household appliances if less than five years old.
4. Damage to gates, hedges and fences by storm or flood, is not covered.
5. Any GRE policyholder who wishes to discuss his or her position will receive courteous and sympathetic attention upon contacting our branches.

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Window of the World for Supply and Demand: German Trade Fairs and Exhibitions

German Trade Fairs and Exhibitions 1976

<p>January</p> <p>1-4. Int. Fair Home Textiles, Floor Coverings, Household Textiles, Frankfurt.</p> <p>20-25. Int. Furniture Fair, Cologne.</p> <p>22-23. BAU - Int. Exhibition Building Materials, Systems, Building Renovation, Munich.</p> <p>24. 1-12. BOOT - Int. Boat Show, Düsseldorf.</p> <p>February</p> <p>2-4. ISM - Int. Sweets and Blat Fair, Cologne.</p> <p>7-13. International Toy Fair, Nürnberg.</p> <p>12-13. COMOTEC-NUCA - Int. Fair Household Appliances, Fittings, Components, Cologne.</p> <p>14-17. International Housing Fair, Cologne.</p> <p>18-19. International Hardware Fair, Cologne.</p> <p>21-25. Frankfurt International Fair, Offenbach.</p> <p>22-23. ISPO - Int. Sports Equipment Fair, Munich.</p> <p>24-25. Int. Men's Fashion Week, Cologne.</p> <p>26. 2-7. 3. Int. Tourism-Exchange, Berlin.</p> <p>March</p> <p>12-14. Int. Fair FOR THE CHILD, Cologne.</p> <p>15-17. IMA - Int. Nations Fair, Munich.</p> <p>18-19. ISEDO - Int. Fashion Fair, Düsseldorf.</p> <p>22-23. WINTERH - Int. Fair Oil Firing - Gas Firing - Heating - Air Conditioning - Environmental Engineering, Stuttgart.</p> <p>24-26. INTERNORGA - Int. Fair for the Hotel, Catering and Bakery Trades, Hamburg.</p> <p>27-29. GDS - European Footwear Exhibition, Düsseldorf.</p> <p>28. 3-4. 4. MODE-WOCHE-MÜNCHEN, Munich.</p> <p>April</p> <p>7-11. Int. Fair, Frankfurt.</p> <p>9-12. IWA - Int. Fair for Hunting, Sporting Arms, Requirements for Hunting, Frankfurt, Nürnberg.</p> <p>25-29. ISEDO - Int. Fashion Fair, Düsseldorf.</p> <p>28. 4-5. EXPOCLIMA - Europ. Exhibition, Refrigeration, Air-conditioning, Air-handling, Drying, Hannover.</p> <p>May</p> <p>1-4. German Aerospace Show, Hanover.</p> <p>14-19. IAS - Int. Footwear Manufacturing Fair with Leather Exhibition, Pirmasens.</p> <p>16-20. INTERSTOFF - Fair for Clothing Textiles, Frankfurt.</p> <p>18-21. FAG - Exhibition Hospital Equipment and Supplies, Nürnberg.</p> <p>21-27. OLG - International Agricultural Show, Munich.</p> <p>22-23. OPTICA - Int. Fair of Ophthalmic Optics, Karlsruhe.</p> <p>22-29. BERGBAU - Int. Mining Exhibition - IX World Mining Congress, Düsseldorf.</p> <p>June</p> <p>15-19. INTEROCEAN - Int. Conference - Exhibition Research - Technology - Economics, Düsseldorf.</p> <p>20-24. ACHEMA - Chemical Engineering Exhibition - Congress, Frankfurt.</p> <p>August</p> <p>25-29. Overseas Import Fair, Partners for Progress, Berlin.</p> <p>27-29. Int. Men's Fashion Week, Cologne.</p> <p>28. 5-9. Int. Leathergoods Fair, Offenbach.</p> <p>28. 6-1. 5. Frankfurt International Fair.</p> <p>September</p> <p>10-18. PHOTOKINA - World Fair of Photography, Cologne.</p> <p>12-15. ISEDO - Int. Fashion Fair with ISEDO-DESSOUS, Düsseldorf.</p> <p>October</p> <p>3-7. Int. Fair Clothing Manufacturing Machines, Cologne.</p> <p>18-20. TAI - Transport Exhibition, Hamburg.</p> <p>18-20. INTERSTOFF - Int. Security Exhibition, Essen.</p> <p>24-28. ISEDO - Int. Fashion Fair, Düsseldorf.</p> <p>November</p> <p>3-7. Int. Fair Clothing Manufacturing Machines, Cologne.</p> <p>15-17. 12. ELECTRONICA - Int. Fair for Components and Production Facilities, Munich.</p> <p>20. 11-14. 12. THERMOPROCESS - Int. Fair - Congress for Industrial Furnaces, Thermo Production Processes, Düsseldorf.</p>	<p>15-21. Frankfurt 80's Fair.</p> <p>18-22. INOFA - Int. Fair of the Food Industry, Munich.</p> <p>18-22. IMA - Int. Bicycle, Motor Cycle Exhibition, Cologne.</p> <p>18-24. German Industries Exhibition, Berlin.</p> <p>21-25. Exhibition - Congress Ship, Machinery, Marine Technology, Hamburg.</p> <p>25-27. GDS - European Footwear Exhibition, Düsseldorf.</p> <p>25-29. AUTOMECHANIKA - Int. Fair Equipment for Motor Car Workshops, Service Stations, Motor Car Spare Parts, Accessories, Frankfurt.</p> <p>28. 9-13. 10. INTERBOOT - Int. Boat Show, Friedrichshafen.</p> <p>28-29. SPOGA - Int. Fair Sports Goods, Camping Equipment, Garden Furniture, Cologne.</p> <p>28-29. Int. Garden Fair, Cologne.</p>
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Information:
German Chamber of Industry and Commerce
in the United Kingdom
11, Grosvenor Crescent, London SW 1X 7EE
AUMA, Lindenstrasse 8, D-5 Köln 1

German Trade Fairs and Exhibitions

An important Soviet dissident whose cause has been ignored by the world



Mustafa Dzhenilev, leader of the Tartars.

For 27 weeks my friend Mustafa Dzhenilev, leader of the Crimean Tartars, has been on hunger-strike in a Siberian forced labour camp in Omsk. He is protesting against inhuman persecution by the KGB, who are fabricating a new case against him. On December 3 his sister described his condition as that of "a living corpse, a walking skeleton". Andrei Sakharov and my father, Pyotr Grigorenko, had organized a press conference for her in Moscow. They also appealed to the United Nations to intervene to save Mustafa's life.

The journalists wrote their stories, but the world's newspapers did not print them. Who, the editors must have asked, are the Crimean Tartars? And what does it matter if their leader is being martyred? These are the questions I hope to answer, simply by describing the life of a man with whom I am linked by many years of friendship.

Mustafa was born in 1943 in the Crimea. Six months later, on May 18, 1944, he and all the Crimean Tartars were forcibly deported to far-away Central Asia. The soldiers who broke into the houses at dawn on that day gave the Tartars 20 minutes to pack their things. Then came the long months of deportation in cattle trucks, during which the weak died by the thousand—of grief, thirst, cold and starvation. By the end of 1945 nearly half the nation had perished.

Mustafa's earliest memories are of a small settlement in the deserts of Uzbekistan. To stray beyond the last hovel meant to be shot on the spot, for a child. At school the teachers sang the praises of Soviet rule, and asserted at the same time that the Tartars had been bandits for centuries, had betrayed the motherland to the Germans, and had been justly punished: for this by deportation.

His family was poor, and Mustafa started work very young. But all his spare time he spent in the library, searching for the truth about his people among all the falsified texts. This put him in touch with other like-minded youngsters, and soon they formed a Crimean Tartar Youth League. The league's aim was to convince the Tartars of the need to

launch a militant campaign for the right to return home. Mustafa insisted from the start that the campaign should be based on the broad principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. As a 16-year-old youth he already understood that freedom is indivisible.

In 1962 the KGB broke up the league by arresting four of its members and subjecting their protesting comrades to a mixture of threats and inducements to turn informers. Mustafa refused to inform. Two days after his last interrogation he was sacked from his job.

Soon he entered an agricultural college in Tashkent, but in 1965 he was accused of "taking part in unauthorized national meetings, writing a Short Historical Essay on the Turkic Culture of the Crimea from the thirteenth to the Eighteenth Century, and refusing to join the Communist Youth League". He was later expelled, after the police had beaten him up for making a speech to a youth group. Harassment increased, especially after he had tried to get the courts to reinstate him as a student, and then travelled to Moscow to appeal to the relevant ministry. The ministry ruled that he had indeed been illegally expelled, but as he left the building the police arrested him, held him a few days, then deported him under guard to Tashkent.

He was tried in May, 1966, on a trumped-up charge of avoiding military service, and sentenced to 1½ years in forced labour camps. At the trial he spoke of his nation's tragic fate: "As a result of the crime of 1944, I lost thousands and thousands of my brothers and sisters. And that has to be remembered! Remembered like the crematoria of Auschwitz and Dachau. Remembered so that such things are not repeated, so that the terrible Nazism and chauvinism which gave birth to these crimes are destroyed at their roots."

In the camp he was urged to renounce his views, was put in the punishment cells, and provoked into a hunger-strike. On his release the harassment continued. He could not find work and was again refused reinstatement as a student.

Now Dzhenilev was elected as one of the permanent representatives of the Crimean Tartars, whose job it was (and is) to press the authorities continuously to allow the Tartars to return home from their exile. In May, 1968, he was due to participate in a demonstration in Moscow by several thousand Tartars on the twenty-fourth anniversary of the deportation. The day before, however, the police rounded up most of the demonstrators, including Mustafa, and sent them back to Central Asia under armed guard.

At this time Dzhenilev got to know many of the leading figures in the Soviet human rights movement, people like

Pyotr Grigorenko, Leonid Plyushch and Alexei Kostin. As a believer in the indivisibility of freedom, he immediately sympathized with their aims. It was to large part thanks to his efforts that misunderstandings were ironed out between the Moscow democrats and the leaders of various national movements in the USSR. Quite logically, therefore, he became one of the 15 founder-members, in 1968, of the Initiative Group for the Defence of Human Rights in the USSR.

During this period Mustafa signed open letters and appeals, and denounced the occupation of Czechoslovakia. So when his new arrest came in September, 1969, it provoked widespread

protests. But he was sentenced none the less to three years' forced labour. At his trial he declared on the ground that the few available independent witnesses would be severely persecuted for their efforts on his behalf, while the police-approved ones would simply do what the KGB ordered. Instead, Dzhenilev himself demonstrated the groundlessness of the charges of "deliberate anti-Soviet slander". He also compelled the court to admit that the prosecutor had participated in punitive police actions against the Tartars. This fact made his prosecutor's role illegal. He also caught the judge red-handed receiving notes which instructed him how to conduct the case.

On his release in 1972, Mustafa's health had been severely undermined by his three years' detention. He resumed his persecution, subjecting him several times to preventive detention. In June, 1974, they arrested him yet again. A wave of protests and appeals came from the Tartars and his friends in Moscow. Some were addressed to the Soviet authorities, others to the UN and international human rights bodies. But they did not avert a new sentence of one year. Since no one was informed about when or where the trial would take place, and as it was conducted in camera, little is known about the proceedings. But it soon leaked out that Mustafa had declared a new hunger-strike and that a prison in Central Asia had refused to accept him in a highly emaciated condition, for fear that he might die there.

On June 21, 1975, Dzhenilev's third sentence was due to end. On June 19 new charges of "deliberate slander of the Soviet system" were preferred against him. He went on hunger strike.

The new charges were no surprise. In January, I had heard from Mustafa's fellow-initiators that a new case was being concocted. And in May I had received a document, signed by one of them, which described the circumstances. The camp authorities were trying to recruit false witnesses from among the prisoners, using threats and blackmail.

Using these materials, I appealed to the camp authorities to put a stop to such illegalities. At first they appeared to do so. But soon came the new charges. A group of friends, including Dr Sakharov and myself, promptly sent a telegram to the head of the KGB, Yuri Andropov. When we got no reply, we organized a press-conference in Moscow last July, at which Mustafa's mother and sister were present. Copies of all the documents, including protests signed by a number of democratically minded people, were given to the press. No stories appeared.

Now, once again, in Omsk, Mustafa is deploying his only weapon. His friends, including myself, have urged him to end his protest, most terrible hunger-strike. Recently he replied: "I refuse to do so, but not because of any childish heroics. The fact is that I began the strike not only as a protest, but also to defend myself against false witnesses. You can see for yourselves they've got nothing to charge me with. So if I hadn't gone on hunger strike, they'd have thrust on me two or three 'collaborators', who would now be testifying against me." The point here is that Soviet law requires hunger-strikers to be kept in solitary confinement.

Because Mustafa is not a Jew, but a Crimean Tartar, will he continue to receive no help from the outside world? Perhaps those governments, groups and individuals who support the Palestinians could give a lead. After all, the Crimean Tartars have been dispossessed of their homeland for a few years longer than the Palestinians. To the Arabs, moreover, they are fellow-Muslims who have repeatedly appealed for support to their Islamic brethren.

Who, in short, will save my friend?

Andrei Grigorenko

Andrei Grigorenko, 1976
Mr Grigorenko is an engineer and the son of General Pyotr Grigorenko, a leading Soviet dissident and champion of the exiled Crimean Tartars. Andrei Grigorenko was closely involved in the human rights activity of his father and friends until his recent emigration. At present he is living in Munich.

Blow for fish and chips

Potato prices have caught up with instant mash, so that the price of Cadbury's Smash is rising by about 11p in the £. Dornay Foods, which produces the rival Yeoman and Wonder-mash, says it has no plans to raise prices. Its last rise was in October, 1975.

Cadbury Typhoo says the rise on Smash was entirely the result of the increased cost of potatoes. Findus says the same about its frozen chips, which rose at the end of December from a recommended shop price of 24p for 12oz to 25p. "It is likely that we shall have to raise the price again in the near future," the company says.

Findus also raised prices of several varieties of frozen fish in December, so that the recommended price of 10 end fishfingers rose from 34p to 36p. Supermarkets in the Fine Fare group will sell some this weekend at 25p for 10.

Early January is always a dismal time for buying food since shops take some time to replace stocks after Christmas and the best home-grown produce is way out of season. This is the time of year when green-grocers have more than their usual proportion of bedraggled, wilting vegetables and when butchers and fishmongers often have less choice than usual in their shops.

Fishermen like a long holiday, so the amount of fresh fish reaching the shops is cut. Birds Eye has tried to take advantage of that by cutting the prices of some of its cheaper frozen fish. It claims that the cuts will make some of their products cheaper than the equivalents sold by fishmongers.

It is hard to compare prices in shops since fishmongers sell by the lb and Birds Eye sells in packets containing 12oz and 14oz. By knocking 3p off a plastic bag containing 14oz of cod steaks, Birds Eye has brought the price down to 56p,

or 64p a lb. By taking 2p off a 7oz pack of cod steaks, the firm brings the price down to 30p, or about 70p a lb. That is a very high price for a fishmonger to charge for a pound of cod steaks.

One alternative to fresh sea fish lies in frozen freshwater varieties. Trout are quite common at 72p to 78p a lb, and a few fishmongers and supermarkets have salmon at £1.50 in £2.00 a lb for whole fish and slightly more for portions. A small piece of frozen Scotch salmon for one person costs between 40p and 50p.

Frozen poultry remains quite cheap for those who can face it so soon after Christmas. There are plenty of chickens from 27p a lb and rather fewer turkeys from about 39p a lb. If a whole turkey seems daunting, there are breast portions that cost between 40p and 55p for enough to feed two people.

All forecasters say that meat prices will rise this year because there will be fewer animals than before. Cadbury's has become the first company to produce a tinned soya product directly competitive with meat, and it should be in some shops in the south of England. The product is a carefully priced so that soya chunks in gravy at 20p a tin cost slightly less than two thirds of the price of a respectable tin of tinned steak from a company like Walls.

The mince variety, which is slightly cheaper, bears a remarkable resemblance to mince meat. Cadbury's soya mince is, of course, made entirely from imported soya beans. The sauce, alas, bears little resemblance to sauces that accompany tinned meat. It is thick, slightly pink, rich and seems to rely very much on the food processor's traditional standby, sugar.

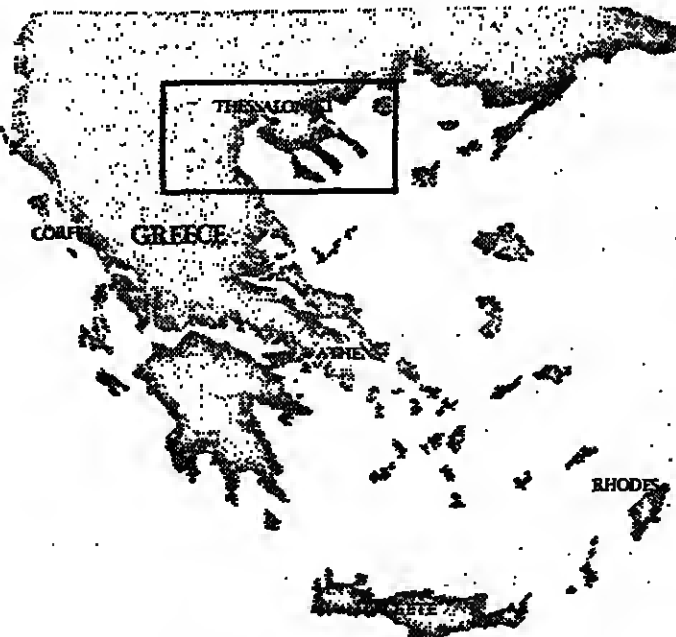
The limitations of soya as a substitute for meat are shown by the fact that Cadbury's have fried their chunks in beef fat which accounts for 6 per cent of the weight of the product. The product will not do for vegetarians, therefore, the market is not vegetarians, the company says. "It's not for groups of any kind."

Hugh Clayton

Mary Hamer and Horriet Crawford, authors of the article "Where the older women lose out when it comes to work", published on this page last Friday, January 2, have asked us to point out that the material for the article was drawn from the conclusions of a workshop on the career prospects for mature graduates, held at Loughborough College. The information put forward was not the independent opinions of the authors, but were drawn from the workshop report.

This city and its peninsula are of such beauty, it is worthy to carry the name of my wife, Thessaloniki.

Cassander, 'King of the Macedonians', 316 BC.



Philippi, the charming fishing port of Kavalla, and lush green Thassos, an island beautiful beyond description.

To the west you will find heady Mount Olympus, the Gods' seat in the sky, Kastoria, with its 18th century mansions clinging to the edge of a mountain lake, and the famed mosaics of Pella, the archeological site that was once the birthplace of Alexander the Great.

The most renowned warrior in the history of Greece, Alexander brought power to Macedonia, and achieved near-divine status as he multiplied the Grecian world four-fold.

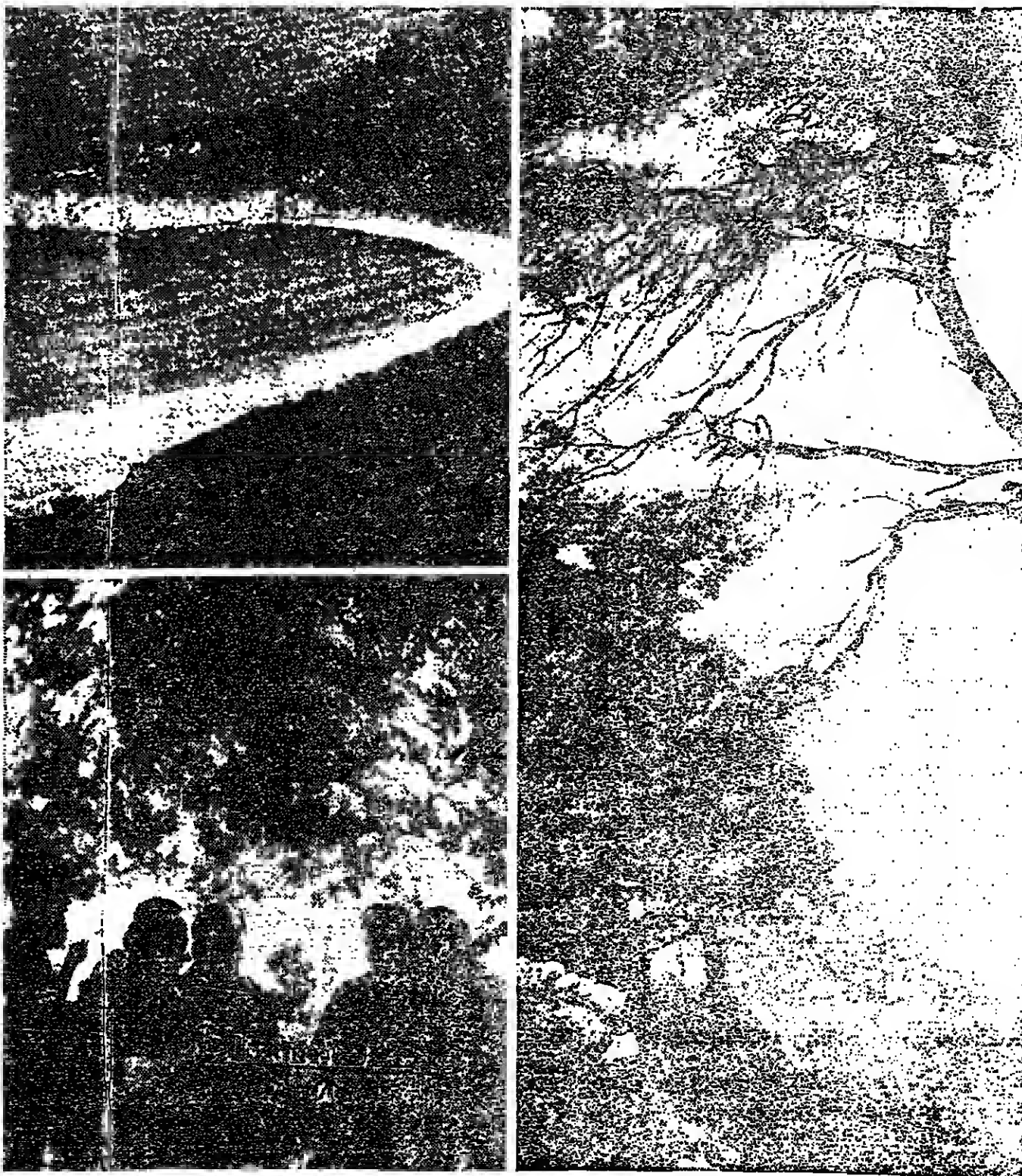
But his death marked the sunset to the long day of classical Greece, and Thessaloniki itself, though largely modern and comfort-filled, amazingly still bears witness to 2,000 years of successive conquests.

The Roman 'Triumphal Arch of Galerius', The Byzantine churches and mosaics. The famous Venetian 'White Tower'. And the wonderfully preserved 'Old Town'.

The old lives on with the new. And that exactly explains the magic at the heart of every Grecian holiday.

For information on the incredible choice available, just write to: The National Tourist Organisation of Greece, 195-7 Regent Street, London W1. Or call 01-734 5997/8/9. Or ask your travel agent.

And if you decide to begin in Macedonia-Greece and its peninsula, then you will surely discover that Cassander must have married a most beautiful woman.



With this dedication, Cassander paid a lasting tribute to a city that was to grow to near-Athenian stature, and to a peninsula that boasts the most beautiful landscape in all the Hellenic world.

A sun-worshiper's paradise called Halkidiki, this peninsula holds spectacular contrasts within its three 'fingers' that stretch deep into the Aegean.

Kassandra is already graced with tourist complexes and luxury hotels.

Sithonia harbours colourful fishing villages, camping sites and mile after mile of enchantingly unspoilt, even deserted, coves.

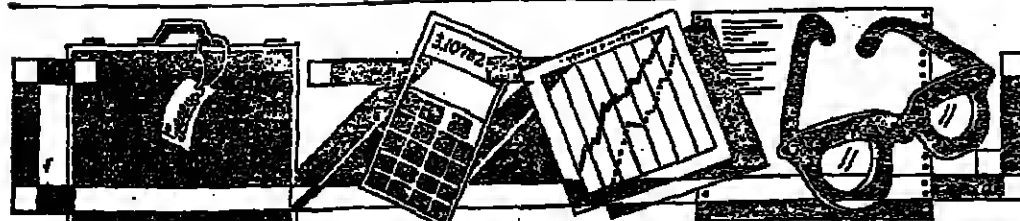
While Mount Athos reveals, alas for male eyes only, the intimate, medieval atmosphere of some twenty monasteries.

But Halkidiki is just a part of Macedonia-Greece, truly an explorer's haven.

To the east lie the ruins of famous

Greece and the Hellenic Isles.

They're closer than you think.



£6,000 plus appointments



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AUSTRALIA

RESEARCH SCIENTIST

DIVISION OF LAND USE RESEARCH

CANBERRA A.C.T.

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization has a broad charter for research into primary and secondary industry areas. The Organization has approximately 7,000 employees—2,200 of whom are research and professional scientists—located in Divisions and Sections throughout Australia.

FIELD:

OPERATIONS RESEARCH/APPLIED MATHEMATICS

GENERAL: The Division of Land Use Research is currently developing research programmes in both socio-economic and biophysical aspects of land use planning, utilising geographic data base systems. The Division is seeking an Operations Research Scientist or Applied Mathematician capable of development and innovative work on optimization problems associated with patterns of regional land use allocation. The following are topics of current interest: Mathematical programming algorithms recognizing multiple goals, both tangible and intangible; combinatorial allocation under proximity constraints; simultaneous optimization of land use and infrastructure networks. The Division is located close to the Australian National University and the CSIRO Division of Mathematics and Statistics and opportunities exist for contact with workers in these institutions.

DUTIES: To initiate research in these topics in an inter-disciplinary team working on land use problems in the South Coast of N.S.W. Scope exists for a later extension of research into broader aspects of urban optimization.

QUALIFICATIONS: Ph.D. or equivalent research experience in relevant discipline together with demonstrable research ability.

SALARY: Appointment will be made within the salary range of Research Scientist or Senior Research Scientist £12,061-£17,861 p.a.

TENURE: Either an indefinite or a fixed term appointment may be negotiated. An indefinite appointment carries Australian Government Superannuation benefits subject to normal conditions.

Applications stating full personal and professional details, names of at least two professional referees and a covering letter, should be sent to: Mr. J. G. Rogers, Director, Division of Land Use Research, CSIRO, Locked Mail Bag 924, Canberra, A.C.T. 2601. Applications should be received by the 15th February, 1976.

Chief Executive

£14,220 x £234(3) to £15,102

The Council require a successor to Mr. D. G. Rogers who will retire on the 30th June, 1976. They are looking for an officer who will continue to provide effective leadership of the administration in the tradition of corporate management which the Council and its predecessor has followed since 1968.

Applicants need not be of any particular discipline but should have a background of achievement in a field relevant to the requirements of the post. Experience of management at a high level in local government will be an advantage but is not essential.

Further details of the post and of the Council, and an application form, which should be returned by the 15th February 1976, may be obtained from the Chief Executive, Shire Hall, Gloucester, tel. 0452 21444 (Mrs. J. Jones ext. 887).

Gloucestershire County Council

Dental Estimates Board Chairman

Applications are invited from registered dental practitioners for appointment as full-time Chairman of the Board, working in Eastbourne, at a salary of £11,000 per annum, superannuable.

The person appointed will be responsible for the direction and organisation of the work of the Board and its professional and lay staff in the discharge of the functions under the National Health Service Act 1948. Applicants must have wide experience in general dental practice, administrative ability and a thorough understanding of the regulations governing the general dental services.

Application forms, together with particulars of the post may be obtained from the Secretary, Department of Health and Social Security, Room 324, Hansard House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6TE (Telephone 01-703 6380 Ext. 454). Applications, marked for the attention of Mrs. A. Simons, should be returned not later than 9 February 1976.

INSTITUTE OF CANCER RESEARCH ROYAL CANCER HOSPITAL (University of London)

SECRETARY OF THE INSTITUTE

The Committee of Management invites applications for appointment to the office of SECRETARY of the Institute following the retirement of the present holder on the 31st March, 1976. Previous experience of higher administrative duties in a university or a research Council is a desirable qualification, but applications from candidates with experience of comparable responsibilities in other employment will also be considered.

Advertising sells itself

These are embarrassing times for advertising men. Under attack from economists, politicians and even industrialists they have become remarkably introverted.

The industry which can claim to have made status symbols out of soap and myths out of margarine has found itself inexplicably lacking in its ability to sell one major product—advertising itself.

Its only defence against the brick-bats of recent public opinion has been, in its own terminology, to adopt as low a profile as possible and wait for the air to clear.

In fairness, the advertising industry has done much in recent months to put its own house in order if mainly in a defensive response to criticism. It has strengthened considerably its own self-regulatory systems and raised funds to sustain them. At the same time it has made worthy efforts to put right much that is wrong in advertising. It has, for example, made powerful efforts to eliminate what were considered unethical and objectionable media selling techniques.

But it has largely failed so far in what might be considered its major battle—the defence of the very concept of advertising.

The industry's crisis in the face of growing criticism on all fronts was summed up recently by Victor Rose, managing director of Reader's Digest, writing in *Campania*, the admen's leading magazine.

Mr. Rose claimed that those who wanted to protect advertising must defend the free society and vice versa. But he added: "Advertising men don't know how to defend themselves—let alone how to attack their opponents."

Now, however, there are signs that the industry is coming to grips with its predicament, preparing to put their selling talents into operation.

In defence of their livelihood.

One of the first to break ranks and move on to the offensive against detractors is J. Walter Thompson, one of Britain's biggest advertising agencies.

Thompson has commissioned a series of papers from members of its own organization and outside experts, outlining the arguments for a healthy advertising market and its clarifying these among clients and associates. The campaign is short on slogans and long on in-depth argument with several of the first seven papers running into many thousands of words.

In one of the first papers issued by the group Mr. Harold Lind, director of research with the Advertising Association, takes the economists to task over the necessity and value of advertising in the present state of the economy.

Mr. Lind devotes his defence to that branch of media advertising most criticized by the economists and that which he claims accounts for less than 40 per cent of the total.

This is what the Advertising Association calls "manufactured consumer advertising", that which is concerned with selling products to potential buyers as opposed to the more widely acceptable recruitment, political and local retail advertising.

Answering the economists, Mr. Lind concedes that in a market of "perfect competition" there could be no place at all for advertising or any other selling activity. Where prices are given and knowledge is perfect any selling expenditure must be completely wasteful.

But he declares that although fair-minded economists admit that in the real world some marketing techniques are necessary because these factors do not apply, they nevertheless hold to the view that this is the "second best answer", which pro-

ducers are forced to use only because the "best answer" of moving towards perfect competition is not open to them.

"In other words," he declares, "they feel that advertising and selling have to be tolerated because of imperfections in the real world, but they should be regarded with suspicion and constant vigilance should be maintained to ensure that the techniques never become themselves a barrier to more perfect competition."

When is at fault in this argument, Mr. Lind claims, is the mythical ideal of perfect competition.

"It is easily shown," he says, "that the assumptions of the perfect competition model are incompatible with investment decisions because any form of investment expenditure depends upon assessment of the future which would be impossible under perfect competition and exactly the same is true of research and sales expenditure."

"In so far as any firm competes effectively it must move this situation in its industry away from that envisaged under perfect competition."

The paradox is that all economic progress depends precisely on improvements in areas such as research investment and indeed selling. So, for those who accept perfect competition as the optimal micro-economic system, virtually every economic and progressive company action must appear to be undesirable.

Mr. Lind argues that advertising should therefore be seen purely as one of many steps in the production/selling process just as machine investment and packaging.

Without it he claims it would in many cases be more difficult, more expensive and sometimes impossible for the consumer to buy a particular product. Now that sounds like a real ad man talking.

Richard Allen

General Manager to control Spanish Operations of a Major International Car Rental Company

An International Car Rental Company seeks a General Manager capable of assuming complete control, subject to board direction, for their Car Rental Operation throughout Spain. This position includes responsibility for administration, organisation, control of depots and agencies, control of the maintenance of the hire fleet and purchase and sale of cars.

The successful applicant, who must be acceptable to the Spanish Government, should be fluent in Spanish and English and prepared to live in Barcelona. The post will involve considerable travel within Spain.

The person appointed will be a self-starter with a proven record of successful, profitable business management and the ability to motivate staff. Car hire experience is desirable but not essential; an initial period of familiarisation will be given.

The employment conditions and benefits are those to be expected of a large International Company and a high salary will be negotiated.

Please write giving full details of previous experience, age, present salary and any other relevant information to: Box 2153 S, The Times.

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The Worldwide Recording Industry's Federation known as IFPI (International Federation of Producers of Phonograms and Videograms) requires an experienced Public Relations Executive.

Initially the main task of the person appointed will be to plan, organize and promote internationally the Celebrations in 1977 of the Centenary of the invention of Recorded Sound.

The successful applicant must:

- * have previous international P.R. experience.
- * have previous knowledge of and an enthusiastic knowledge in the Recording Industry.
- * speak fluently at least one European language other than English.
- * be aged about 35.
- * be prepared to travel abroad.

Benefits include non-contributory pension scheme.

Applicants giving full personal details, experience and qualifications together with the names of two relevant referees, should be sent marked "Private and confidential" to:

Mr. P. J. Gossion,

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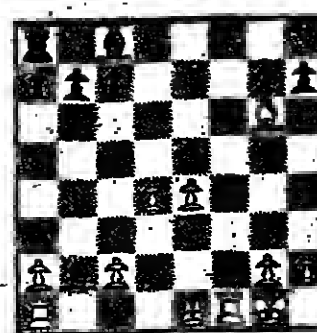
This is the senior appointment in a unique Arts Centre with an annual budget of just about £2m. It has buildings completed and in use valued at £2m.

There are (approx.) 1,000 attendances a day, and work of the Centre comprises the full range of the Arts from both professional and amateur aspects: drama, music, visual arts, crafts, and includes sessions for parents and children together. The Centre operates 7 days a week, every day of the year except Christmas Day. The position requires a man or woman of vision, energy, unbounded enthusiasm and good health, who has appropriate experience in the Arts, Education, Administration. The appointment would need to be taken up before September 1976 when the present Director, Mr. John English, is due to retire. Salary is by negotiation.

Write for full particulars and Application Form

Miss Beryl Poole,
Chairman, Cannon Hill Trust Ltd.,
Midlands Arts Centre for Young People,
Cannon Hill Park,
Birmingham B12 9OH.

Report and Results of The Times Appointments Pages Chess Competition



This was the set position for the competition and was the finish of a game played at Smotensk in 1950 between Jester (White) and Lelchuk (Black). White played 1.Qx4 and Black resigned. The two threats were 2.Qx2 mate and 2.Qx4 mate. If 1...Qx4; 2.Rx4 mate. If 1...Qx2; 2.Rx2 mate, or (b) 2...Rx2; 3.Qx2 mate, or (c) 2...Rx2; 3.Rx2 ch, Kx2; 4.Qx8 mate.

I was surprised by the large number of entries that were right. Out of over 1,000 entries only some 2% failed to get the exact correct combination. But when it came to the tie-breaker it was another story. Two pitfalls had to be avoided; one was too slavish an imitation of the idea in the position I gave and the other was indifference to the theme that had nothing to do with that in the set position. More competitors fell into the first trap than the second.

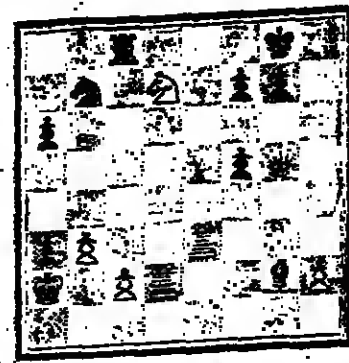
Four sent in the position Adams-Torre, New Orleans 1924, and an exact number sent me the famous Bishop manoeuvre in the Ruy-Lopez gambit game New York 1924. I was touched by their careful assumption that I would know whence these positions came since they failed to indicate the source of their inspiration.

Eventually I narrowed down the results to the best 31 entries and of these that by P. P. Copping was outstandingly good. The very fact which Mr. Copping's entry showed so harmoniously and neatly left me in no doubt that he had won the prize of a £500 holiday.

Consent to the prize and commiseration with the others on a near miss. The remaining thirty (in alphabetical order) were: G. H. L. Berg and R. T. J. Berg; C. J. Miles; F. P. Boun; K. Boun; T. E. Brownlee; J. Coleby; F. R. Courtney; G. P. S. Coy; C. S. Crouch; S. W. Dike; M. Rex; J. A. Gammon; P. Gill; C. B. Hill; R. Kirkpatrick; D. Levy; Dr. A. Master; T. Miller; S. Patel; M. Pearce; L. Richards; W. D. B. Robertson; F. C. Roy; A. J. Roycroft; I. J. Sinclair; P. Tilton; T. J. Tyrrell; B. Wertheimer; B. J. A. Whitworth and Dr. P. Wright.

Two of the above, S. W. Dike and A. J. Roycroft, were so good that I have recommended that they be awarded a consolation prize. They will each be receiving a Times Appointments Page, *Comprehensive Edition*.

Here is the position that won the prize.



I let Mr. Copping speak for himself.

White is in trouble after an exchange sacrifice by Black but rescues himself by renouncing the exchange.

1. Kx2! 2. Kx2 ch 3. Kx2!

4. Kx2 ch and after 2... Kx2; 3. Kx2 ch, White should win.

But Black counter he has found a hole in the combination.

3. Qx5! 4. Qx2 ch

Now Black hopes to win the endgame after 4.Qx2.Rx2 ch; 5.Kx2, R-K7 ch and 6... Rx2.

4. Kx2!

There isn't going to be an endgame now.

5. Qx5 ch 6. Qx5 ch and mate.

Harry Golombek

OXFORD POLYTECHNIC

Head of Department of Estate Management

Applications for the above post (Grade VI, £8,037-£9,513), including the names of 3 referees, should be submitted by February 2, 1976, to:

The Director, Oxford Polytechnic (C), Oxford, OX3 9BP, from whom further particulars and application forms may be obtained.

SURGEON

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

French/English speaking General Surgeon wanted for 18-40 month assignment in Ivory Coast, West Africa. Will serve as Deputy Chief Medical Officer on team of health care professionals staffing a modern American equipped 12-bed hospital. Liberal benefits. Salary commensurate with experience. For further details please submit curriculum vitae and summary of experience to:

Paul Zukin, M.D., Kaiser Foundation International, 380 Lakeside Drive 2511 OB, Oakland, California 94606, U.S.A.

EXPORT SELLING VACANCY

A vacancy exists for an enterprising, energetic sales representative capable of developing markets, and expanding the present sale of milk products throughout the world. The successful applicant will be based in Victoria, London, but will be expected to be engaged mainly visiting overseas markets. Preference will be given to applicants with previous experience in the export field. Age: 25-40.

Commencing salary will be attractive but the job will appeal to an applicant who is prepared to be rewarded by his own business achievements.

Apply:

L. E. PRITCHETT & CO LTD, Terminal House, 52 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0AU. Tel: 01-730 9154. Attention: Mr. J. E. Ogden.



SOLICITOR

ICI has a central team of lawyers in London which provides a full range of commercial legal services to its extensive UK and overseas operations. Outside solicitors in the UK are not used. One of the team has recently been appointed to another position in the UK and it is now open to applicants. Candidates should be solicitors aged between 26 and 29 and have at least 2 years' admitted experience. The field of serious experience is not critical and the requirement of the job is a practical businesslike approach to legal problems combined with initiative and the ability to work independently.

This is a challenging appointment from the outset carrying considerable responsibility and involvement in the negotiation of major contracts, company acquisitions, and joint ventures. It will be necessary and the ability to speak another language is an advantage.

Please apply in writing or by telephone not later than 21 January, 1976, for an application form to:

C. W. North, Head Office Staff Section, IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LIMITED, Imperial Chemical House, Millbank, London SW1P 5JF. Telephone: 01-834 4444.

SENIOR ASSISTANT DISTRICT TREASURER

£6,144 rising to £7,485 (inclusive)

This is an important post in the financial management structure acting as number two to the District Treasurer of this large teaching district and it is based at The London Hospital. The annual revenue budget is approximately £24m.

The successful applicant will assume overall responsibility for day to day running of a large finance department and will be involved in revising systems, preparing estimates and long term plans and ensuring effective budgetary control throughout the District. Applicants must have proven managerial ability and be experienced in the use of modern financial management techniques.

Application form and job description obtainable from Laura Marcus, Area Personnel Department, The City and East London Area Health Authority (T), Addison House, 32/43 Chart Street, London N1 6EP. Telephone 253 3020, ext 516. Closing date will be the 30th January, 1976.

THE CITY AND EAST LONDON AHA (T).



01-278 9161

or our Manchester

Office

061-834 1234

£6,000 plus Appointments

GENERAL VACANCIES

MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCE DEPARTMENT

NATIONAL FARMERS' UNION

Applications are invited for a post on the Headquarters staff of the N.F.U. The vacancy is an additional appointment which will carry considerable responsibility in the Milk and Dairy Produce Department of the Union. The successful candidate will be responsible initially for the supervision of the Director of the Division. Salary according to experience and qualifications.

Application forms from: The Secretary, National Farmers' Union, Agriculture House, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7NJ.

WE MEAN BUSINESS

The City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce is looking for a sales and/or a woman. What we want is more members. Not because we are desperate for them; after 27 years we are doing very nicely. But quite clearly, the members we have are not doing the job when it comes to fighting for free enterprise, the rights of men and women. There is here a challenge for a sales and/or a woman who can meet, talk with and convert to our way of thinking, the business community of Westminster who are not already among our 3,000-odd members.

For more details please write to Derek Allen, Secretary, The City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce, Milre House, 177 Regent Street, London W1R 6J.

JAZZ CENTRE SOCIETY

requires an

ADMINISTRATOR

To develop and promote jazz activities in the North of England. This is a new post, based in Manchester but frequent travel is involved. A creative and strong interest in jazz music together with a proven administrative ability are essential. Starting salary will be in the range of £3,000-£3,500 plus car allowance and pension. Candidates with degrees in business, education, or social sciences, and with experience in administration, are preferred. Applications should be sent to: The Secretary, Jazz Centre Society, 102, 104, Cannon House Terrace, London, S.W.2, from whom further details may be obtained. Closing date for applications—23 January.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

SOUTH COAST

SOLICITORS

Excellent opportunity for a competent solicitor under 35, admitted not less than three years, capable of handling large volume of general work with minimum supervision. Pending retirement of Senior Partner gives rise to genuine Partnership prospects in this new future.

Salary by negotiation.

Please reply Box 2055 S, The Times.

EXPERIENCED CONVEYANCER

able to deal with commercial and domestic matters with minimum supervision in small busy City office. Call Charles Hunt on 247 0003.

ALANCAE—Legal Clerk

The specialist legal clerk to the solicitor. Must be a graduate of the Law Society, with a minimum of 3 years' experience in a City office. Salary £1,800-£2,000. Call Charles Hunt on 247 0003.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Waikeato

HAMILTON, NEW ZEALAND

PROFESSORS IN

PSYCHOLOGY AND

SOCIOLOGY

The University invites applications for the post of Professor of Psychology and Sociology. The successful candidate will be responsible for the supervision of the Department of Psychology and Sociology. Salary according to experience and qualifications.

Application forms from: The Secretary, University of Waikeato, P.O. Box 100, Hamilton, New Zealand.

For more details please write to Derek Allen, Secretary, The City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce, Milre House, 177 Regent Street, London W1R 6J.

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City Valuer

Salary £12,102-£13,276 inclusive

Westminster City Council is seeking a City Valuer to succeed Mr G. E. & Palmer, FRICS, FRVA, who will retire on 30 June. His successor will be a chief officer head the separate Valuation Department which has a current strength of 24 professional officers with administrative support.

The Department is responsible for all the Council's valuation work (including certain aspects of rating), property negotiations and estate management (excluding municipal housing). The current annual rent roll of properties under the City Valuer's management is about £1.5 million.

Candidates must be professionally qualified and preferably well experienced in local government.

Post card or telephone (01-828 8070, extension 277/2780) for particulars.

Closing date for applications: Friday, 30 January, 1976, to Chief Executive, Room 18.05, Westminster City Hall, Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QW.

Serve in the City of Westminster.

BOROUGH TREASURER

SALARY UP TO £12,400

Southwark is one of London's most active and interesting Boroughs with an expenditure of over £100m p.a.

This is one of the most challenging jobs in London local government finance and presents a major opportunity for someone currently at Assistant Treasurer level or equivalent and above.

Please write personally, giving details of education, professional qualifications, career to date, and a resume of relevant experience to Mr S. T. Evans, Chief Executive and Town Clerk, London Borough of Southwark, Freepost, London SE5 8BR, to arrive not later than 23rd January, 1976.

Southwark

Appointments Vacant

ARCHIVIST—

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

RECORDS

(UP TO £7,520)

to be responsible for the Archaeology Section of the National Monuments Record. The work involves identifying and copying valuable records which are at risk in their present location; preparing and maintaining a general index of excavation records and field surveys; and advising on the application of electronic data retrieval systems to archaeological records.

Candidates (normally aged at least 30) must have a degree with 1st or 2nd class honours (or equivalent), preferably in Archaeology, and have worked in the archaeological field for at least 5 years since graduation. Familiarity with the use of computers for data retrieval is desirable. A valid U.K. driving licence is essential.

Starting salary (Inner London) will be in the range £4,810-£7,520 according to qualifications and experience. Promotion prospects. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form to be returned by 30 January 1976, write to Civil Service Commission, Alcon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 58531 (answering service operates outside office hours) or London 01-839 1922 (24 hour answering service). Please quote ref 6/9201.

ROYAL COMMISSION

ON HISTORICAL MONUMENTS

(ENGLAND)

to be responsible for the Archaeology Section of the National Monuments Record. The work involves identifying and copying valuable records which are at risk in their present location; preparing and maintaining a general index of excavation records and field surveys; and advising on the application of electronic data retrieval systems to archaeological records.

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Winter warmth

Price rises bringing icy blasts

by Roger Vielvo

Few people can be unaware that the cost of heating their homes this winter will be more expensive than in the past. But few householders seem properly prepared for the shocks that this winter's fuel bills will bring.

Statistically, the facts are plain and freely available. Electricity prices have doubled in just two years: gas prices rose by an average of 20 per cent in October, making the fuel more than 43 per cent more expensive than in the previous autumn.

Customers for oil, who suffered most from rising prices during the winter of 1973 and the early part of the winter of 1974, this month saw the cost of a gallon of heating oil rise by between 25 and 27 per cent. Paraffin, used mainly for free standing heaters, went up by 6p a gallon at the same time.

Solid fuels have risen by 36 per cent since last winter, but like electricity and gas there are still substantial regional variations in the price of coal-based products. According to a recent *Which?* report a coke user in Northampton might have escaped with a 21 per cent rise in his fuel bills while in Reading anthracite grains are costing 40 per cent more than last year.

The fear, particularly in the gas and electricity industries, is that householders will realize the full extent of the increases only when the first of the winter quarter bills arrives. And at time of year when, even in

normal circumstances, large numbers of people find it difficult to pay their gas and electricity bills, the suppliers could find themselves facing the prospect of cutting off supplies to several millions of their customers.

Government departments are well aware of the difficulties that many consumers will face over the next four or five months and Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has asked the National Consumer Council to undertake a study into the effects of energy prices on low-income families.

The council has already made an extensive investigation into the fuel market this winter. In a report to the House of Commons Select Committee on the Nationalized Industries, it suggested that needy families should be given a free fuel allowance that would allow them a minimum supply of heat, light and power. The council sees this as a temporary measure to help the lower paid adjust to the fact that high-cost energy is here to stay and will be in future a major item in the household budget.

Ireland already operates a free fuel allowance for pensioners and the council would like Britain to give more thought to an idea now being implemented in Japan. This involves "inverting" tariffs so that consumers of small amounts of fuel get their supplies more cheaply than large users—the exact opposite of the present situation.

The idea has some merit since many old age pensioners are among the class that uses small amounts of fuel and are penalized by high standing costs. But in order to give this group some relief it would involve subsidies from large consumers many of whom, particularly council house tenants with central heating, also find it difficult to pay their fuel bills under the present system.

Proposals from the council cover the gas and electricity industries where most of the largest increases to costs have been seen. Owners of property with oil-fired central heating are generally assumed to be among the more affluent sections of society. Solid fuel has a much reduced role in the home heating market, and generally it is not available on quarterly credit terms like gas and electricity.

Installing the right type of central heating is still very much of a gamble. If gas is available, it is cheaper than most other fuels; but gas prices have been kept artificially low by government action and the monopoly of the British Gas Corporation in purchasing supplies from the North Sea fields.

British Gas maintains such a veil of secrecy over the price it will have to pay for expensive new supplies from the northern part of the North Sea and amounts by which existing contracts are increasing that it is difficult for a consumer to make an objective judgment on whether gas will continue to be a good buy.

It is equally difficult to be sure of the prices of other fuels. The government decrees that all state subsidies shall be removed from the nationalized industries' pricing structures in the final stages of being implemented and will mean that in future the real cost of producing energy will be reflected in consumers' bills.

Electricity is committed to a general revision of its tariffs in April to take account of higher costs apart from fuel. On top of this there seems certain to be a coal price rise that will be reflected in the fuel adjustment clause contained in all the published regional tariffs. Electricity, as the largest single consumer of oil, will also be hoping for an extension to the nine-month freeze on oil prices which is due to end in June.

These days the cost of running electric central heating seems to outweigh its advantages. Supplies are available nationwide and systems can be installed without a flue or chimney and the minimum of building work. It also requires very little maintenance and is clean. The cost of electricity varies from region to region. The *Which?* survey on fuel prices showed that off-peak electricity was cheaper in Scotland and South Wales and that the daytime rate was lower in Scotland, especially in the north.

As with electricity, there is no choice of supplier for gas which is not available in all parts of the country. Operating costs are cheaper than

electricity although the capital cost of installing a system is higher and requires a greater degree of maintenance. The *Which?* report says gas is cheaper in the Midlands although the corporation is gradually phasing out many of the more obvious regional discrepancies.

Which? considers that gas, anthracite grains or House-warm coal are the best forms of home heating this winter. Solid fuel, burnt in older installations can be messy, and even new boilers need regular attention. There is also the need for storage, particularly if advantage is to be taken of discounts for bulk ordering. Coal is cheaper in areas close to the coalfields.

Oil also needs storage space. At present there are considerable differences—up to 15p a gallon—between the prices offered by the big oil companies, and it is certainly worth shopping around for central heating oils.

One of the trickiest problems faced by consumers of oil and electricity for central heating is whether the present prices make it worthwhile changing to an alternative source of fuel.

While the change from electricity to gas would involve substantial new installation costs, large-scale users can no longer disregard this alternative in view of changes in off-peak charges and the general increases in electricity bills.

The author is Energy Correspondent, The Times.

a Special Report

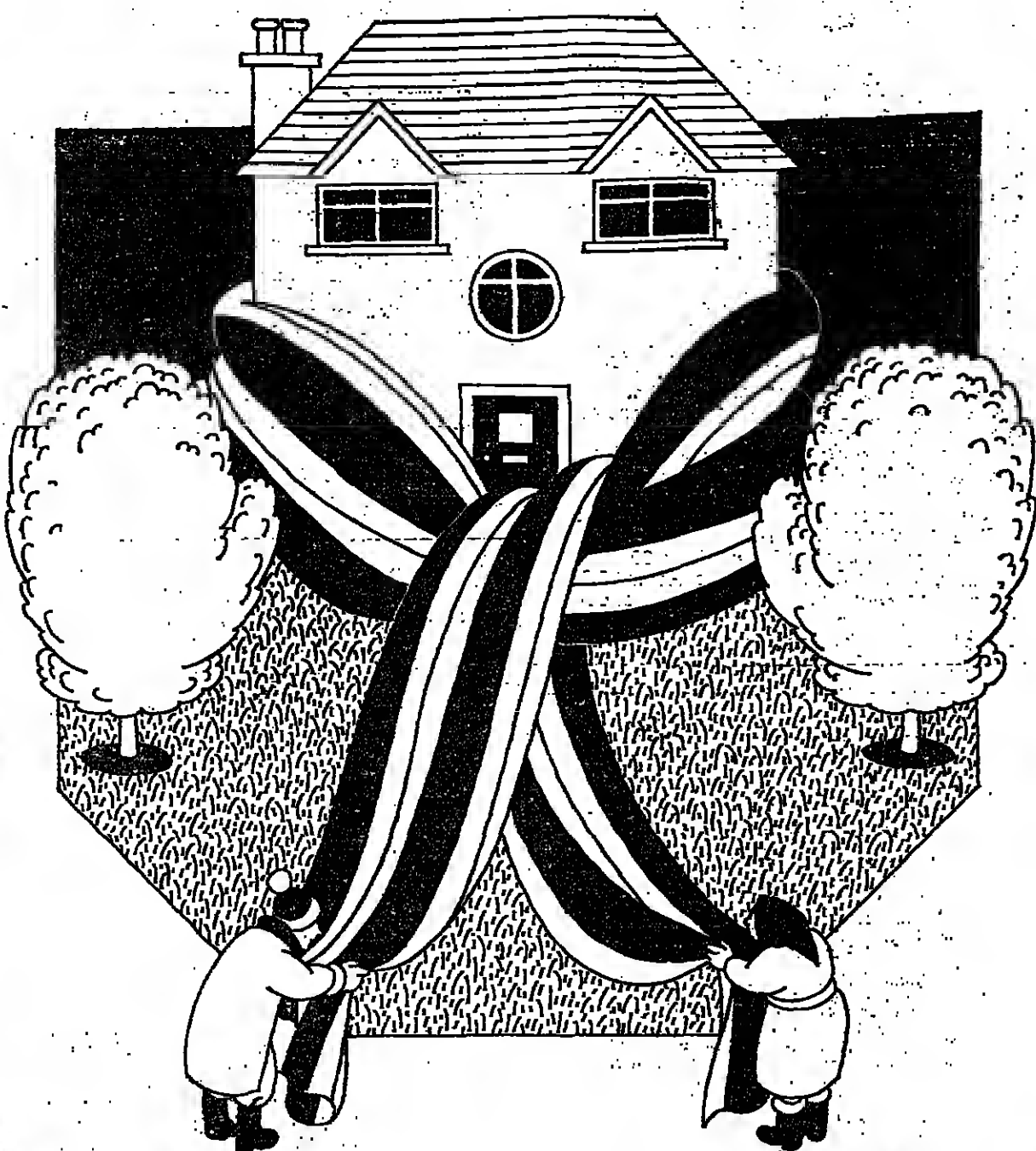


Illustration: Lyn Gray

What other central heating gives you a choice of boilers like these?



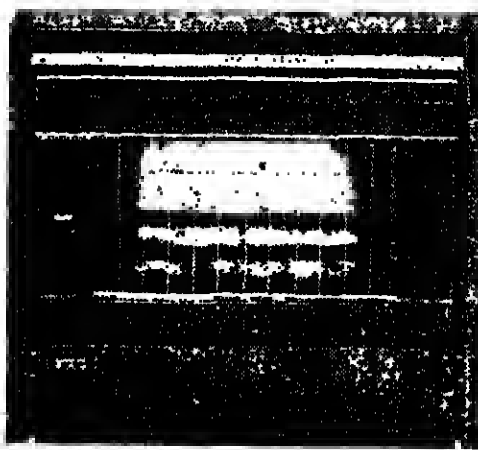
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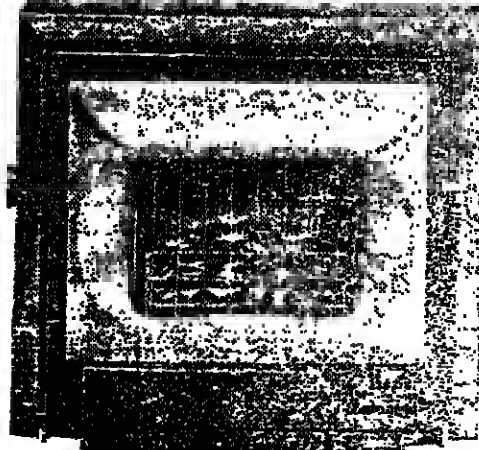
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Dunsley Firefly



Rayburn Rhapsody 'S' Roomheater



Parkray 1-11GT Roomheater

Central heating boilers are often so unattractive, they have to be hidden away in a corner of the kitchen.

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You can, for instance, have a high-output back boiler behind an open fire that will run up to five radiators and provide hot water as well. Or you can have a roomheater that runs up to ten radiators and gives all the hot water a family could possibly need.

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You don't have to worry if you live in a smokeless zone. Modern smokeless fuels mean you can light a real fire wherever you live.

And, most important of all, solid fuel central heating is still one of the most economical forms of heating you can buy.

Above, you can see a small selection of the 270 or so fires you can currently choose from. The ones shown all provide central heating. Some for small homes, some for large.

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☐ Please send me your new free 28 page full colour book.

☐ I'd like to talk to someone about a new heating system.

☐ Please arrange for a Heating Adviser to visit me, without obligation.

☐ I'd like to talk to someone about my present heating system.

Please arrange by someone from your Customer Satisfaction Service to visit me, without obligation. (Tick as required)

Name _____ AS/T/1

Address _____

Tel: _____

Solid Fuel Advisory Service

Insulation: start at the top

by Peter Jarvis

As with most other aspects of life, the key to success in lessening the impact of rising fuel costs lies in establishing the correct priorities.

Understandably, however, many bewildered householders—beset by higher fuel bills on the one hand and the blandishments of insulation material purveyors on the other—fail to do this. There are many homes where double glazing has been installed but no loft insulation exists. Failure there can upset completely the hoped-for economies which have been the subject of the energy conservation clamour of the past year.

Getting these priorities right is, therefore, the vital first step towards keeping warmth in. It should be borne in mind that as much as a quarter of the heat generated in an uninsulated house escapes through the roof, up to 35 per cent through the walls, a further 15 per cent through draughts and 10 per cent through windows. By viewing the house as an envelope for heat and attending to the main breaks in the envelope first, the householder can carry on most effectively his own domestic energy conservation campaign.

The roof is an obvious starting point. Those people buying new houses are basicaly protected by the 1975 revision in the building regulations which required all new dwellings to incorporate a minimum 50mm roof insulation material. But new houses are still a small proportion of the national housing stock. Insulation of the loft is especially important for residents of older housing constructed with non-cavity walls, since insulation of the walls by the normal cavity injection approach is obviously impossible.

This work can be carried out surprisingly economically on a do-it-yourself basis. The materials most commonly used are mineral wool or glass fibre in roll form or alternatively granules or pellets of vermiculite, loose mineral wool or glass wool. Insulating blanket is simply rolled out between the joists in the loft; it is a good idea to tuck it well up at the eaves to prevent draughts getting in—also fully to wrap the water tank.

Loose-fill material is simply poured (or packed) from the bag into the space between the joists to the depth of two inches. The thicker the material used the better the insulation value—a depth of three inches (75mm) now being increasingly recommended.

One company in the business, Fibreglass, says that an average-sized attic can be three inches insulated by any practical person at a cost of about £23 and estimates that the householder would recoup this in about 12 months through fuel savings.

Where the loft is converted for use as an extra room the best approach is to nail insulating board to the rafters. Reinforced aluminium fute this criticism and in

purpose, foil can also be used for this.

Walls must be the next target. There are millions of homes in the United Kingdom which were built before cavity insulation became established. In older houses the walls from the inside can be an effective answer in preserving heat within the fabric of the building, while lessening damp troubles. Plasterboard with an expanded polystyrene backing is one example.

Apart from these two main sources of heat loss, a great amount of heat may disappear from the home by way of gaps round the doors or badly fitting windows. Even the front door letterbox may present a difficulty.

A careful check of the plaster bordering window frames may reveal significant cracks (particularly in newer property) which are letting cold air into the room. These are easily remedied by the use of a proprietary filler obtainable through builders' merchants or leading hardware stores. Gaps round doors and ill-fitting frames can most cheaply be rectified (provided they are not too serious) by foam-based adhesive strip. The trouble with this product is that it rarely survives more than a heating season, tending to perish and become suddenly if sited at the bottom of poorly fitting casements.

To give the public a clearer idea of the more superior sealer products available to combat difficulties a weathering advisory association was recently established at Oxhey, near Watford in Hertfordshire, by seven of the leading suppliers to the market. The association estimates that in an average house all the window and door gaps add up to an area of 22 missing bricks and claims that about 90 per cent could be saved in a heating season by draught-proofing two external doors alone.

Once roof, walls and draught-admitting gaps have been attended to, double glazing finds its way on to the householder's list. Double glazing's reputation as an insulating medium was recently criticized after a report by the Building Research Establishment stated that "there is very little incentive on the part of fuel cost savers to install double glazing". This outlook was based on the fact that original installation is fairly expensive and the heat loss reduction (about 10 per cent) would offer savings which would not cover installation costs for many years.

Ensuing press comment had a misplaced emphasis on this long payback period (partly, it must be admitted, the result of the inflated "savings" expectations nurtured in the public mind by many operators who had sprung up during the boom period of the industry). The Insulation Glazing Association (IGA) was quick to rectify this criticism and in

point out the various benefits.

There is little doubt that these are considerable. Apart from saving 10 to 12 per cent of the total household fuel bill, double glazing provides "thermal comfort" near windows by eliminating draughts, reduces condensation, and (where there is a minimum 4in between the panes) improves sound insulation.

Though secondary glazing (the fitting of a second glazed unit over an existing one) probably remains the more important approach for existing property, factory-made sealed units (replacing the existing window altogether) are gaining in prominence. The IGA has just announced a funding scheme which will guarantee sealed units by backing them with a test certificate.

It is difficult to quantify what the average household can save annually in fuel costs by adopting all these insulating measures, but

Burisol-UK, an association of mineral fibre manufacturers, say that loft insulation and cavity fill installed in an uninsulated postwar, three-bedroomed, semi-detached house could cut a typical total fuel bill of £240 by some £95—a saving of well over 40 per cent. The same organization gives a cost figure of £61 for the loft insulation and £140 for the cavity infill—with amortization of the total outlay estimated at just over two years.

There are almost 2,500,000 uninsulated, centrally-heated dwellings in Britain and a further 7,900,000 homes without central heating or insulation. Both national and private common sense, economics dictate that insulation must be counted exceptional value for money.

The author is editor, *Insulation*.

HERE'S A SIMPLE WAY TO SAVE ON FUEL WITHOUT FEELING THE COLD

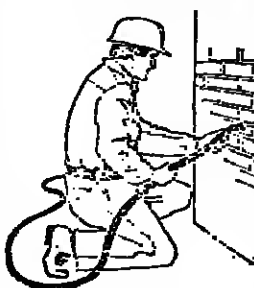
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Up to one third of the heat in your house is lost through the walls—even more than through the roof. That's something no amount of altering your thermostat and timetable will change. But ICI Ufoam Plus Cavity Wall Insulation drastically cuts that loss, saving pounds on your central heating, while you still enjoy as much warmth as before.

You can be sure of Ufoam Plus. It is backed by ICI's reputation and was developed in ICI's laboratories to the highest standards. Rigorous checks ensure it won't be installed in unsuitable houses. As a result we have over 100,000 satisfied householders to our credit.

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Complex system to control heat

by Alan Bailey

It all seems a far cry from the day when one threw another log on the fire and crept a little nearer to the hearth. Home instrumentation to ensure comfort has reached a high level—indeed, for the less technically inclined, a level which seems to demand a study of advanced physics. There are basically three types of controls—fluid controls, electric controls and those for timing and programming.

The fluid controls are simple. A cylinder thermostat controls domestic water at the correct temperature. If tap water is heated to the same temperature as the water in the radiators, there is risk of scalding and, in any event, money is being wasted in overheating. For room heating there is a group of special-purpose valves which control the system and achieve maximum comfort with minimum economy.

Zone valves isolate a part of the heating circuit; thermostatic radiator valves keep each room at a temperature which suits the occupant; mixing valves obviously mix hot water from the boiler with cooler water already circulating to achieve the best radiator temperatures; gravity check valves stop natural thermal circulation from continuing when the pump has stopped; and diverter valves provide a constant flow of water through the boiler and allow water to be routed.

The advantage of the automatic valves is their independence of human whim. The thermostatic radiator valve, for example, replaces the normal hand valve on the radiator—and frees the householder from rushing about in a flurry of economy when he thinks rooms are too hot.

Some valves can cause complications. Zone valves, which allow different parts of the house to be separately timed or temperature-controlled, can upset the hydraulic balance of the system unless the greatest care is taken in their design.

The electric controls are becoming interesting. At the lowest level of complexity is the boiler thermostat which establishes the temperature at which the water leaves the boiler. These provide no compensation for air temperature rises or heat losses and therefore waste fuel. Room thermostats react to temperature and switch on and off the pump and boiler.

Of course there are some disadvantages with this kind of installation because the thermostat's operation is at a single point in the room. Their sitings must therefore be selected with care. First thermostats start a heating system if the surrounding temperature nears freezing point. They do, of course, only sense frost levels—the position where they are sited but they then prevent serious frost damage to exposed parts of heating systems.

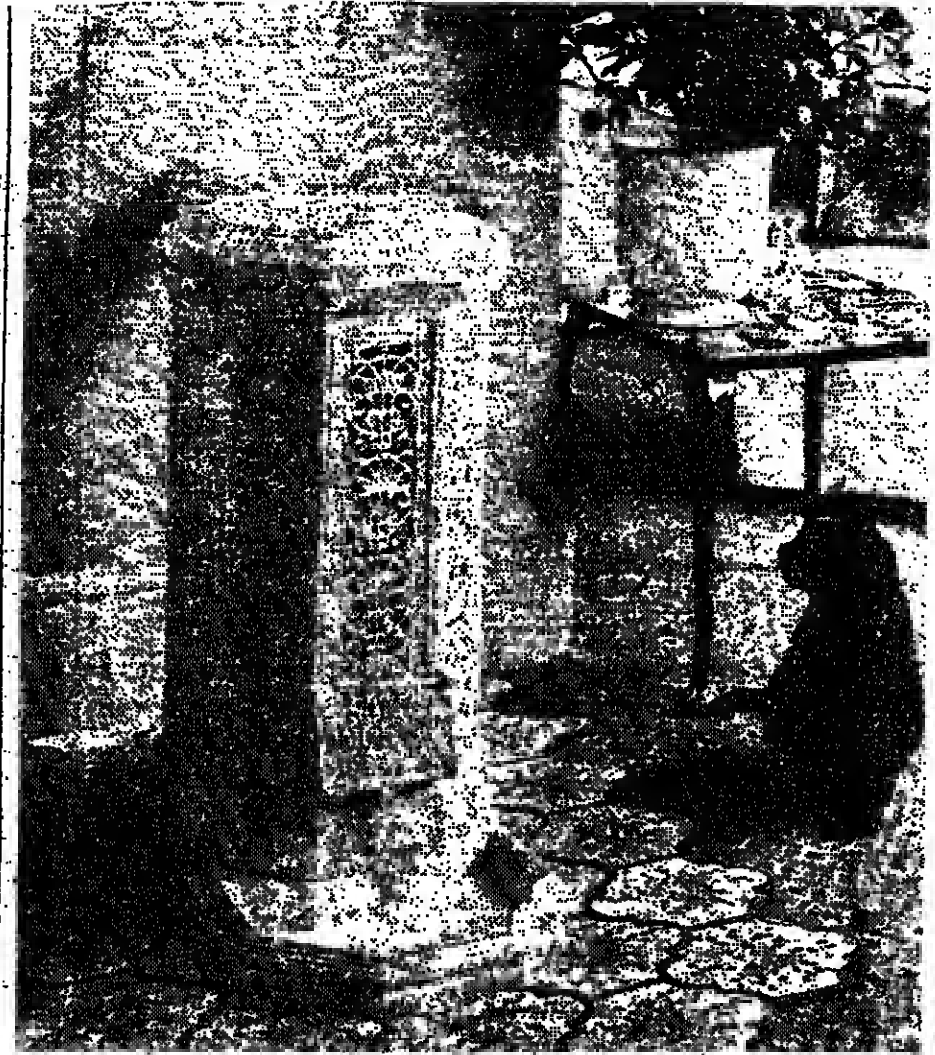
The flow sensor signals variation in water flow temperatures and the outdoor sensor signals weather changes and the rate of heat loss from the house. The modulating controller assesses overall heat requirements and operates mixing valves to the correct temperature. The modulating controller can incorporate programmers and time clocks which must be the ultimate in temperature/time relationships.

The programmers, as the name indicates, initiate a number of preset "on" or "off" phases of the heating and/or the hot water system. Once they are set they need little attention but they provide no temperature or comfort control in themselves. The time switch restarts the system so that the returning workers can enjoy warmth as they arrive. Used in conjunction with the modulating controller, the system is near perfect. The controllers compensate for heat losses and continuously adjust the heating supply to suit the temperature.

Although controllers have a higher initial installation cost these are often recovered by fuel savings in the first two or three years.

The Drayton Autotherm System incorporates many of the items already mentioned. Outdoor and flow sensors read the outdoor temperature continuously and adjust the heat supply to replace escaping heat. The system gives high efficiency and economy in fuel consumption and it is flexible enough to take frost and cylinder thermostats as well it required.

Boschwell has produced a "direct acting" heating control which incorporates a comfort control centre working in conjunction with individual room thermostats to provide close temperature control of separate areas within the home.



The warm centre of the living room, traditional and modern. Above: a Victorian tortoise stove. Below: the Dunsley Condor has a back boiler that will heat as many as five radiators.

Simple process beset by confusion

The British have an unhappy knack of creating complexity. It would be reasonable to suppose that cavity wall insulation—a simple and fairly inexpensive process which saves money by the retention of heat in the home—would be encouraged. It is encouraged by the Government as part of its energy conservation campaign.

On the other hand, the Secretary of State for the Environment decided six months ago that cavity foam insulation came within the building regulations and application would have to be made by or on behalf of the owner-occupier for relaxation of the regulations whenever he wanted to carry out the work. This decision in the absence of early advice to local authorities placed the cavity foam industry in confusion.

Circumstances are symptomatic

It is perhaps unfair to cite cavity foam insulation as an example of over administration of our building affairs. The circumstances are, however, symptomatic.

We have during the past 20 years overreacted to every crisis to an extent that leaves those of us still with the will to build bemused by a host of officials concerned with

fire safety resistance, means of escape, public cleansing, foul water, surface water, and a dozen other things including insulation. The cost to the building industry, the Government, the local authorities, the building owner and the tax and ratepayer is immeasurable.

Wall insulation is rather expensive largely because it requires professional skills and equipment. Although cavity walls provide some insulation, it is not enough. The inner skin of bricks absorbs heat. The bricks in turn heat the air inside the cavity and the warm air moves, warming the bricks on the outer skin which shed their warmth outside.

To prevent this loss, the process of filling the cavity with either urea formaldehyde or mineral wool has been in use for many years, although the British were slower than most to take their insulation seriously. The process is a simple one during house construction.

Existing houses are a different matter. It is necessary to drill holes into the joints of the brickwork and inject the insulation material through them. The holes are then filled and the brickwork repointed. If the job is done properly, it is efficient. The problem, apart from the bureaucratic one, is that the job is not always done properly. The campaign for energy conservation was

sufficiently effective to increase substantially the demand for cavity wall insulation services.

Demand creates response, and the response came in part at least from some experienced practitioners. Bad workmanship in cavity wall insulation can cause serious problems. It is wise to seek the advice of the Cavity Foam Insulation Association at Bremer House, Sale, Place, London W2, which will supply a list of reputable firms with the necessary skill, experience and equipment.

Not all houses with cavity walls should be treated. It has been suggested that about 20 houses out of every 100 are not suitable cases for treatment. If brickwork or pointing is in a poor state, injection is inadvisable. Similarly, if a wall is particularly exposed, a reputable firm might advise against the treatment. Occasional cases have been reported of inadequate fill—that is to say the insulation material does not reach all parts of the cavity—particularly around the courses.

The Agreement Board has issued certificates for three

But with the recognized firms there is an implicit assurance that the work will be done to the owner's satisfaction. Remotely, ICI (Urethane Plus), Kozibrome, Megaflex, Supertex, Modern Plan Insulation—there are many firms of repute with national coverage. Many of them offer guarantees of satisfaction.

The cost is fairly low. Foam injection for a small semi-detached house might be about £120 and for a medium-size detached house about £150. Mineral wool costs a little more. The savings on fuel bills can soon repay the investment.

AB

Satellites may soon beam sun's energy to earth

by John Myers

Monopoly control over the prices of oil, coal, gas and electricity leaves the householder feeling vulnerable to arbitrary increases. His only defence is to cut consumption, either by turning off appliances or by spending money on home improvements which conserve heat.

Energy sources which can be substituted for conventional supplies are attractive because they offer consumers a degree of independence. In recent years a number of research projects have been initiated with the objective of designing the "autonomous" house, in which sunlight, the wind and even recycled domestic waste are used to generate heat and energy.

In the long-term, the prospects for alternative energy sources seem bright. A study published in 1977 by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development concluded that some of these energy resources and technologies "may be expected to contribute to supplies on a large scale and cover an important part of all energy needs".

In the United States the Energy Research and Development Agency predicts that solar power will provide 7 per cent of the country's energy requirements by the year 2000 and 25 per cent in 2020.

But before such forecasts can be realized there will be a long process of research, innovation, trial, commercial investigation and experimental installation of equipment. New ideas, inventions and enterprising ventures are already gaining a foothold in the European market, however, and solar heating of domestic water is being rapidly developed and tested in practice.

free energy to boost domestic heating.

This concept has been taken further by physicists at Ohio University. They have demonstrated that solar ponds containing concentrations of salt can be effectively used for year-round domestic space heating even as far north as the Arctic Circle.

Other approaches are also being considered. Research workers at Pennsylvania University's centre for energy management have designed a system which would use direct solar heating, store thermal energy and run off-peak air conditioning for residences in new housing estates. Colorado State University has a solar energy applications laboratory, and its research team has designed and installed a similar system in a university building.

In many places, solar or "photovoltaic" cells are being developed which will improve energy storage and the efficiency of solar energy systems in areas with limited sunshine. And work is in progress on the design of satellites to collect solar energy and beam it to ground stations serving local communities.

The successful introduction of non-conventional energy sources on any scale depends on four main factors: the availability of finance, the engineering of appropriate technology, enterprise and marketing skills. There are signs that all these necessary conditions are being met.

The money is coming from several sources. In the United States, local communities faced with substantial increases from existing utilities are considering investment in solar-powered generating plant. In Bridgeport, Texas, the initiative is coming from the city council in response to rate increases demanded by the state power company. In New England, the Massachusetts Electric Company is testing a variety of solar energy systems in private homes.

Britain has a number of examples of official and private backing for systems to exploit alternative energy sources. The National Research Development Corporation, is providing financial support to the Wind Energy Supply Company to adapt British helicopter technology to the design of a rotor-bladed windmill plant. The purpose is to convert wind power into heat as a pollution free source of low-cost energy.

At the government-financed Warren Spring Laboratory, one of several studies being undertaken involves the application of technology to produce heat from waste products and refuse.

In Bedfordshire, at the Cranfield Institute of Technology, experimental studies have been carried out on a system installed in a house and designed to recover and use heat from domestic waste water. In Surrey, Compton's Solar and Technology is one of a number of small companies which has recently been set up to develop and market equipment based on natural energy sources.

The diversity of ideas, experiments and studies is impressive. Apart from energy from the sun, wind, waste materials, investigations are being made into the feasibility of tapping geothermal energy, tidal power, and energy from differences in temperature of bodies of water in the oceans.

Can you really economise with your old central heating?

Is it as effective as it could be? Could the running costs be less? Could you have more control over it?

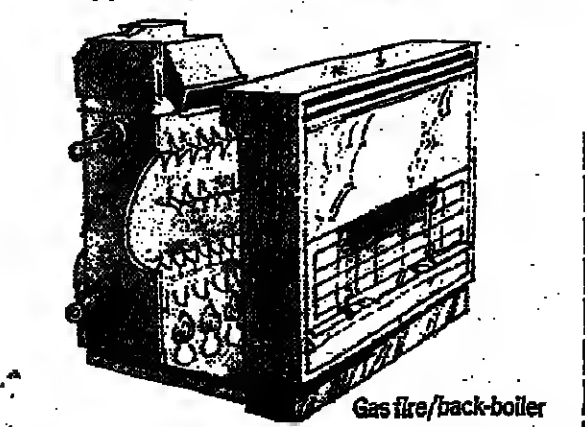
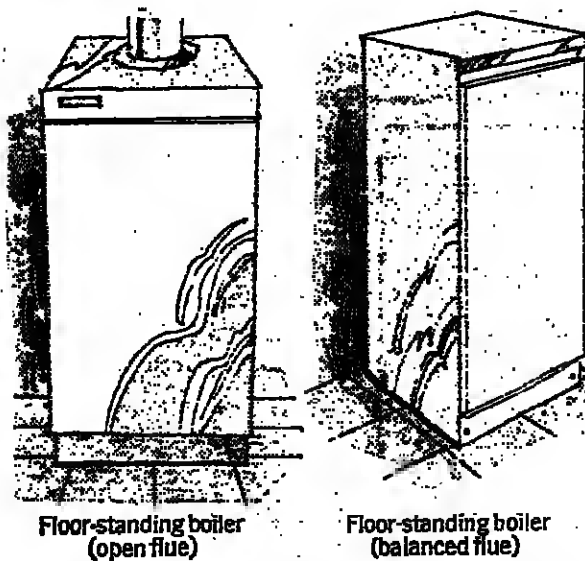
There's a simple answer to nagging questions like these. Modernize, with a fully automatic gas boiler from the Specialists—British Gas.

With no fuss or bother and with the minimum of upheaval, you can get things under control again.

But we don't just exchange the boiler and leave it at that. After installation the system is tested for soundness and the boiler checked to make sure it's working properly. The work and materials used in the boiler installation are also guaranteed for 12 months.

And don't forget, the Specialists can also be a great help when it comes to other improvements to your central heating. Like extra radiators, time clocks, thermostats and insulation.

If you're unhappy about the way your old boiler behaves, find out more about a well-behaved replacement. Either by filling in this coupon, or by going along to your local Gas Showroom.



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To: British Gas (371), 326, High Holborn, London WC1V 7PT. Please send me details of Gas central heating ☐ Please arrange for a representative to call ☐

Name

Address

Tel.

Competition winner

Solar heating equipment which won a Copper Development Association competition has been installed in three houses on an estate near Croydon. In Mersey-side nine solar-heated bungalows are planned for elderly couples in a scheme initiated by Pilkington and Loughborough University in conjunction with a housing association. At Aachen in West Germany tests are at an advanced stage in the development by Philips of a "solar house", a project financially supported by the state authorities and the leading power company, RWE.

The energy required to heat water in residential buildings represents no more than 4 per cent of national consumption. The potential cost savings from this application of solar energy are therefore significant but not dramatic.

The next step in the development of the technology will have a greater impact: about three-quarters of the energy used in British dwellings is required for space heating, almost 22 per cent of national energy consumption. Solar space-heating systems, when they can be economically introduced, could offer substantial savings to householders.

Research studies have produced a variety of ideas. For example, South African scientists have suggested that a swimming pool covered with a transparent plastic sheet can function as a solar collector, providing almost

Why squander good money on fuel when you don't have to?

Invest in a B.M. Foam House Blanket.

Save up to 33% on your annual fuel bill!

What is a B.M. Foam House Blanket?

Very simply, it's a layer of pure, white, plastic foam that's sandwiched between the inner and outer walls of your house.

How can a B.M. Foam House Blanket save you up to 33% on your fuel bill?

Easy. Every house, unless it's properly insulated, loses heat through its walls, roof and windows. The greatest heat loss, however, is through cavity walls.

How long does it take to install?

Usually, about 4 hours. If yours is a large house, it could take a day.

Installation is quite simple and is done with a minimum of noise, fuss or mess, from the outside.

After drilling small holes in the mortar between bricks, a squirt-gun is used to flood the cavity with foam. Afterwards the holes are filled with matching mortar, leaving no trace.

The difficult thing, however, is doing the job expertly. Only no-nonsense can be trusted to blanket your home safely. So beware of cut-price operators and always look for the CFIA sign of quality.

Is there a guarantee?

Yes. Once installed, your B.M.

Little indeed. Depending on the type and size of your house, a B.M. Foam House Blanket will cost you between £40-£100. (Double-glazing could cost you anything between £120-£500.)

If you spend £100 a year on fuel, you could recover the cost of a B.M. Foam House Blanket in 2-3 years at most!

Can you wrap YOUR house in a B.M. Foam House Blanket?

Yes, provided it has cavity walls. (If your house is less than 40 years old, it's almost certain to be the cavity wall type). In any case, your house will be checked for suitability by a specialist surveyor prior to installation.

How long does it take to install?

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The B.M. Foam House Blanket reduces heat loss through cavity walls by more than 75%. That means, of course, you burn less fuel for a shorter time to get the most heat out of your system.

Obviously, the less fuel you burn, the lower your fuel bill!

How much does it cost?

Compared to double-glazing, very

Send coupon for free survey. Act now!

Tomorrow you could start saving 33p in the £1 on fuel!

MARK ENVELOPE 'FREEPOST' NO STAMP REQUIRED

B.M. Foam House Blankets
A Division of Essendon Engineering Ltd.
Pottersbury, Towcester, Northants.

I would like further details, a FREE survey and estimate.
I understand there is no obligation.

Name

Address

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Turbulence over Portugal that put BBC to the test

ing to the book, "the American people are still in the dark" against the decision to go to Iraq, and that not that they are, but that they are alleged inability to understand the decision or perform satisfactory action is still in court. But the reason they have been caught in this is of some general interest: it demonstrates, perhaps where the limits of the American mind must be drawn, that respect and truth in our popular media like the BBC is not as high as it should be. Mr. Mansell said. "This country has a tradition of a free press, and a free press in a democracy and the protection of the views of citizens is a fundamental principle. And the American democratic tradition is to step up a democratic or open information to the people. As Mr. Mansell suggested, the remnant of the traditionalist want to read the world."

There is clearly a consensus among British political and media authorities that the American democracy should be revolutionary to the revolutionary. It would be astonishing if there were not, and that the American media are naive enough to believe that the American media effects the American in which they choose

With Sir Geraint, not so much an opera more a way of life

[illegible]

What was must guard against, brother, is the moderates infiltrating the unions...



Culture shock

The British Museum will have to do something about the arrangements for its private views of special exhibitions. I saw a few months ago about the same confusion at the opening of the American Bicentennial now there, and Wednesday night's opening of the splendid exhibition of Thracian treasures was no worse.

The Museum had invited the

View list plus a couple of thousand with particular Bulgarian interests. Nearly all of them seemed to arrive in the last hour before the clock, and at the time of the official opening ceremony. The first thousand were able to get somewhere near the ceremony, but the rest were forced to wait for up to an hour on the stairs, and many stalked off without seeing the exhibition.

They missed bearing I. vudmila Zhivkova, the Bulgarian Minister of Culture, speak at length about the "ancient and enigmatised Thracian culture". Then Fred Mulley, her British counterpart, spoke about the same subject with surprisingly detailed knowledge.

Crowds in near by puts bore witness to the fact that many had decided to seek less enigmatic cultural refreshment elsewhere. A museum spokesman admitted yesterday that the arrangements had been inadequate, because of the in-advance publicity and a far larger attendance than usual. For those who stuck it out she had this comfort thought: "By next week anyone who comes will have to wait that long."

Happy choice of phrase by Peter Ringham, planning director of Thracian Council, commencing on complaints by neighbours of Hugh Scanlon about a window of the Engineering Union tender put into his Broadstairs home: "He's looked into it and found Sir Scanlon was within his rights."

PHS



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WITHOUT A GOVERNMENT AGAIN

Whatever the Italian Socialist Party hopes to gain by precipitating a new ministerial crisis, it has clearly not won any popularity either with other political parties or with political commentators. The overwhelming consensus is that this decision is an unhelpful one. No one seems to think the Socialists have any chance of obtaining the "emergency government" which they say they want—that is a government in which they themselves would return to office, which would commit itself to a left-wing economic programme, and would explicitly accept Communist support at least on certain issues.

Such a formal acknowledgment of the Communist Party's apparently inescapable creep towards power is unacceptable to the Christian Democrats—who whatever their faults are still the largest party. They have not given up hope of turning the Communist tide, and some of their leaders believe that any concession made to the Communist Party will make its eventual defeat that much more difficult. Others accept that the Communists will have to be brought further into the political system (though not necessarily into the government itself). But they do not wish to provoke their own supporters, many of whom are sincerely anti-communist, by taking such a momentous step within sixteen months of the next general election; nor are they disposed to allow the Socialists to play the role of umpire or midwife in bringing about a new political alignment.

It is generally assumed, therefore, that the crisis will be a prolonged one and will end in that early dissolution of parliament which the Socialists say they do not want, and which certainly no one else wants. For while almost everyone agrees on the need for a "clarification" of the Italian political set-up, it seems unlikely that this can be provided in present circumstances by a general election.

It is true that a general election held now would hardly be a carbon copy of that of 1972. The marked swing to the left which occurred in the regional and local elections last June would almost certainly be repeated, at least to some extent, on the national level. But that would not clarify anything that is not already clear. The Christian Democrats would, barring miracles, still be the largest party. The Communists would still be the second largest, and the Socialists would still hold the balance. But the voters would have cast a vote without any clear significance because the position of the parties they were voting for would remain thoroughly ambiguous.

If any real clarification is possible, it must come from the party congresses which are to be held in the next few months—and especially from that of the Christian Democrats which will see a confrontation between the reformers represented, albeit reluctantly, by the party's present general secretary, Signor Zaccagnini.

and the conservatives whose driving force remains the diminutive but irrepressible figure of Senator Fanfani. But the dissolution of parliament would of course entail the postponement of the party congresses, the freezing of the genuine debate within parties, and its replacement by a sterile rhetorical slanging-match.

The Socialists have thus taken on themselves a heavy responsibility. They have done so presumably because they saw no advantage for themselves in the course events were otherwise taking, which was propelling Christian Democrats and Communists towards a tacit agreement over their heads, if not a clandestine one behind their backs. They are certainly right in stigmatising the country's economic situation, and probably right in judging that the government's economic measures were inadequate to deal with it. And by supporting the government in parliament they were incurring responsibility for the economic situation, without obtaining any compensatory influence on policy. But a political vacuum is hardly likely to produce a more effective economic policy, and the country will hardly thank the Socialists for creating one. Perhaps they would do better to return to office on the basis of some face-saving formula, rather than hold out for concessions which the Christian Democrats cannot make and the Communists do not yet want.

GENERAL TAX OR SPECIAL CHARGE?

The Thames Water Authority is not one of those far-flung rural operations whose customers might at first sight have been expected to feel the effects of the recent House of Lords ruling on sewerage charges most sharply. Compared to East Anglia, say, it must serve relatively few dwellings that are not connected to the sewers. The burden of the judgment that such places should not have been charged for the service falls on it too, however. It has so many sewerless buildings of other kinds—principally small shops—that next year's charge will be 21 per cent higher than it would have been if the Lords had decided the other way. This is fully equal to the level that is likely to apply nationally—a point not without relevance to the basic issue in the controversy.

The argument was over the familiar problem of the difference between a tax and a charge. Government provides various services for the common good, and raises money for them by taxing us whether we directly benefit or not. If just the parents of children paid for schools, or just the sick for health services, the quality of those services would be so low that society as a whole would suffer. There are

borderline cases where the balance of individual and general advantage is less apparent, and the case of the house without main drainage is one of them. For the householder, being connected to the system may be a convenience that he would like but feels he cannot afford. The advantage to him of the fact that some distant market town is not subject to flooded streets or to epidemics of typhoid may seem considerably less immediate.

So when two years ago such householders began to be charged explicitly for sewerage, many of them were indignant. In fact they had been paying for it for years as part of their rates, but a new form of collection made the fact prominent. Some went to court on the grounds that the Water Act of 1973 did not give the new water authorities, which had taken over from local government, the power to make the charge when no direct service was provided. The Act was in fact confused and vague, and the Law Lords found, by a majority of three to two, that it did not confer the power.

This victory of the individual over bureaucracy was pleasing in itself, but in reflection it appears more ambiguous.

Obviously householders connected to the sewers will have to pay more—particularly because the Government has decided that the cost of the mistake over the past two years should be met by these bystanders, and not by the community as a whole through taxation. Householders who are not connected are likely to find that water authorities will charge much more for emptying their septic tanks. As for the principle, sewerage, like the supply of pure water itself, does seem to fall most naturally into the category of those services which benefit us generally. Even if remote farmhouses could survive without it, the hereditaments in cities that are not connected would scarcely be tenable.

The Government will have to bring in a Bill to make clear exactly what water authorities can charge for now, and to arrange for householders who were unlawfully charged to be recompensed by the rest. There is no intention, apparently, of setting right the original error and making everyone pay for the service in future. But a mistake does not become sacrosanct just because the Law Lords have pointed it out. The charge should be made general once more.

CANTERBURY'S MAN ON THE CONTINENT

The reported intention of the Anglican church to institute a Bishopric of (in) Europe is a piece of ecclesiastical modernisation of which every forward-looking person must approve. The duties to be performed now belong to a pluralist who is both Bishop Suffragan of Fulham, in the diocese of London, and Bishop of Gibraltar. In the former capacity he is pastor of Anglican souls incarnate on the Continent everywhere between the Pyrenees and Lapland, while his diocese of Gibraltar sweeps in a more southerly arc from the Azores to the Caucasus. The arrangement contradicts sound administrative practice in that the title provides insufficient clue to the function. It leaves one little better informed about the nature of the Right Rev. J. R. Satterthwaite's responsibilities than a similarly archaic dignity just bestowed on Mr. Harry Corbett, Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, leaves one informed about Soory.

A new title is indicated, but the Anglican church cannot have

"Bishop in Europe" for the sufficient reason that it already has 70 diocesan bishops in Europe and goodness knows how many suffragans and assistants. For Europe happens to include the British Isles. It always has and it always will, irrespective of anything that happened on January 1, 1973. The proposed title therefore would not adequately distinguish the new man from, say, Bath and Wells.

So what can we suggest? It is open to the church to revive an earlier usage. The titles of bishops forced to abandon their dioceses by the incursion of infidels used to be preserved with the addition of the phrase *in partibus infidelium*. That was an earnest of Christendom's confidence in the recovery of its lost territories and a useful reminder to the resources of ecclesiastical patronage. The cases are not strictly parallel, but "Bishop of Europe in partibus" is a kite worth flying. If offence were taken (and you can never be sure how these Continental jockies will jump) it would be explained to them that the apostrophe con-

ceals not the word *infidelium* but the words *fratrum et temporis separatorum*.

Or it might be better to take the title of the see from one of the historic ecclesiastical seats within the area of its jurisdiction. Geneva, for instance. But it would be splitting in the eye of history to yoke that city to the episcopate. No such objection arises to that other (and some would say even greater) seat of churchmanship situated to the south of the Alps. So let him be Bishop of Rome.

The fact that there already is one should be no bar—there is more than one bishop of Liverpool, of Southwark and elsewhere. The ecumenical impact of the measure would be incalculable. A post-conciliar Vatican would surely accept the commitment without the affronted papacy which gripped Lord John Russell and his government when the boat was on the other leg in 1850. And if the consecration of an Anglican Bishop of Rome required reinterpretation of the thirty-seventh of the XXXIX Articles—well, such feats have been performed before.

London art market

From Mr J. A. Floyd
Sir, The contention expressed by your Sale Room Correspondent, Mrs Geraldine Norman, on December 23, that "the art market may be shifting out of London" is completely untrue so far as Christie's is concerned, and I am surprised that my old friend, Mr George Levy, should give credence to it in his letter in today's issue (January 8) and even more so that he should attribute it to the imposition of a 10 per cent buyer's premium. If anything the reverse is the case. The following facts and figures speak for themselves.

Christie's United Kingdom sales totalled over £11m this autumn (or 69 per cent of our total sales) compared with the same period in 1974. Mr Anthony Thorncroft of the *Financial Times* reported on the same day as Mrs Norman's article: "Christie's Norman sales only expanded from £4.3 to £4.8 million. The major gain was in London, even though the King Street saleroom held 113 sales, 45 less than last season." The reason for the smaller number

of sales at King Street was that we held 121 sales at our new saleroom, Christie's South Kensington.

Mrs Norman said in her article that Christie's results were "more difficult to interpret" (than Sotheby's). Can this be because Christie's figures did not match up to what seemed to be her preconceived opinion on the state of the art market? Mr John Hechler, who has directed our press office for many years and is in daily touch with Mrs Norman, tells me that she expressed the view in his office at the beginning of the autumn season that there might be a fundamental "shift" out of London and repeated this during the first two weeks of December. When he gave her the results on December 22 she expressed her surprise that the total was as much as £15,898,000 and that the United Kingdom sales were mainly responsible.

It is surely proof of the confidence of foreign collectors in the London market that over a quarter of the lots in our important Old Master sale on November 23 came from abroad, while in the January sale on December 2 no fewer than 75 out of 94 works in the morning sale belonged to foreign

vendors from 10 different countries while buyers came as usual from all over the world.

I do not wish to labour the point and fully admit the importance of our foreign sales such as those in Geneva, but I and my colleagues feel we cannot leave such a misleading report unanswered. It is not only the question of my firm's reputation but the damage it does to London as an art centre. Your correspondent's reports are used as source material by newspapers all over the world and their reports are often an influential factor when collectors are considering whether or not to send their works of art for sale in London. The post-war success of the London art market is due to the combined efforts of the British fine art trade, auctioneers and enlightened attitudes of different governments over a number of years. All markers, however, can be damaged by loss of confidence which can easily be brought about by inaccurate reporting.

I am, Sir, your obedient,
JOHN FLOYD, Chairman,
Christie, Manson & Woods Ltd.
8 King Street,
St James's, SW1.
January 8.

Containing terrorism in Ulster

From Professor Bernard Crick
Sir, There is much to agree with and much to disagree with in your editorial on Northern Ireland (January 7). At different times one has to walk up and down both sides of the question: Northern Ireland cannot be governed without the consent of the majority; and Northern Ireland cannot be governed without the consent of a large minority. One may doubt your judgment that it was a mistake ever to have abolished Stormont (if only the Unionists had used their power more wisely) and equitably, but they did; and share your sense, particularly in relation to what is likely to be said in Monday's debate in the House (how easy it is to come to terms with the real fears of their supporters), that the Majority Report has to be taken as a starting point.

The most realistic hope may be a voluntary coalition for the sake of the emergency (how can the security situation be solved without the support of SDLP leaders, on conditions that do not leave them their support with their people? What if the UUUC boycott a recalled Convention? Is direct rule the only answer, which in the long run would almost inevitably lead to a re-partition?

William Craig, with sincerity and courage, simply for the sake of provincial self-government, tried to convince his fellows and to come to terms with the SDLP. The latter proved easier than the former. If such a coalition were to emerge, the power-sharing objectives of the White Paper into constitutional guarantees for the treatment and representation of the minority? The devil might say, give the UUUC virtually all the power, and a majority condition but because it is a subordinate Parliament, then divide and divide power in a new Northern Ireland Act and entrench formidable minority rights, both subject to judicial review, not to a Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. This would be a quasi-federalism, but need have no implications whatever either for parliamentary representation or for Scotland or Wales. It would ensure the United Kingdom connexion for the majority, but also give protection to the minority. Parliamentary sovereignty would be preserved in the sense that the Act could be repealed, but politically, once negotiated and passed, this would be unlikely. And it could be done simply by amending the Majority Report.

Continued direct rule is the worst of possible worlds for everyone. I suggest that it is likely to happen is that the UUUC leaders must face the choice between majority government in a deliberately rigid and enforceable constitution, or a Parliament with a much freer hand, virtually old fashioned, but with the sense that the Act could be repealed, but politically, once negotiated and passed, this would be unlikely. And it could be done simply by amending the Majority Report.

From Lord Brockway
Sir, May I welcome your leading article on Northern Ireland (January 7)? It makes the most constructive proposals I have seen. The revolution against the Armagh atrocities should impel the political

leaders to accept an emergency coalition for the specific purpose of united action to contain the appalling violence. It is to be hoped that Mr Rees may reconvene the Convention to propose this. The transference of responsibility for the RUC to such a government should also remove the deaths of the SDLP.

I would like to add a further suggestion. Whilst a temporary coalition government is necessary, a joint government between Unionists and Social Democrats cannot permanently be expected to deal with the dire economic problems of Northern Ireland. Their approach is fundamentally different. The need is to have a basic guarantee of civil rights to prevent the discrimination against the minority which occurred for 50 years.

With this assurance of democratic liberties and a party government, following the control of violence, might be acceptable. A Bill to ensure such rights seems to me to be essential if there is to be hope of reconciliation.

Sincerely yours,
FENNIE BROCKWAY,
House of Lords,
January 7.

Nature of the SAS

From Mr Colin Shepherd, Conservative MP for Hereford
Sir, I am sorry that Mr Gerry Fitt, the Social Democratic Labour Party Member of Parliament, should have fallen victim to the misleading propaganda put out by the Provisional IRA concerning the nature of the SAS.

The comparison with the CIA and the derogatory implications made by Mr Fitt on his BBC interview last night (January 7) are totally incorrect since the SAS, coming under the Ministry of Defence, is merely a regular army formation under normal military discipline and abides by the laws of the land. It bears no relation whatsoever to any intelligence or espionage organisation. The main difference between the SAS and other military units is that the SAS are trained in and have special skills for operating against guerrillas and terrorists—just as the Tank Corps is trained to operate in tanks. Over the years they have developed a high degree of technique and it is for this reason that the SAS are highly feared by terrorists wherever they operate.

There can be little uncertainty that the continued blast of wholly misleading and incorrect stories of the activities and nature of the SAS put out by the Provisionals over a long period of time has had a considerable effect on the thinking of whether or not to employ the SAS in Northern Ireland.

The introduction of the SAS into the Northern Ireland theatre will not be a success in this troubled area. I am sure that the steady work, good fieldcraft and total dedication of these men will have been contributory. I have no doubt also that they will be assisted by the terrorist propaganda machine to blacken and besmirch the reputation of the SAS during their time in Northern Ireland and I would ask your readers to bear in mind the reasons for this when hearing reports of alleged activities. I hope that they will remember that the SAS has never operated outside the law.

If Mr Fitt is sincere in his condemnation of the recent atrocities in Armagh, then surely he will wish to welcome the arrival of the SAS in Northern Ireland and not condemn it.

Yours sincerely,
COLIN SHEPHERD,
House of Commons,
January 8.

Parliamentary drafting

From Mr E. R. White
Sir, On Christmas Eve I received from the Home Office a circular explaining to me in ten fiveline paragraphs what the Children Act 1975 is about. Not to be outdone, on New Year's Eve the Department of Health and Social Security presented me with a transcription of the Home Office Circular with some additions of their own. Both were agreed that there were many sections of the Act affecting Magistrates' Courts which were to come into effect on New Year's Day.

This morning (January 7) the Act itself arrived from the Stationery Office so I can now try to find out how being looked at the Act, I

Legal earnings

From Mr John Hagan, QC
Sir, Lawyers have for so long been a popular butt for criticism that it would be churlish and sadly lacking in a sense of humour not to enjoy Mr Bernard Levin's amusing article on the earnings of the Bar (January 6). Nevertheless it is difficult not to discern some slight dislike on his part for this branch of the legal profession which some psychologists might attribute to an unfortunate past experience, but which in any event is strangely at odds with the eulogies of praise he recently heaped on the head of counsel conducting the case for a television licence holder against the Home Office. Could the difference be due to the fact that on that occasion the

barrier concerned happened to be advocating a cause dear to Mr Levin's heart?

It is fervently to be hoped that Mr Levin will allow any bitterness to depart from his soul before it becomes corroded, and that the gentler and more endearing side of his nature hitherto reserved mainly for such subjects as Wagner, Russian dissidents and the late Dr Otto Jeckelmayr may in charity extend to embrace even the Bar, so that after the chastening experience of this article it may with new humility (or renewed arrogance as Mr Levin would doubtless say) attempt to survive.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
JOHN HAZAN,
43 Marlborough Mansions,
Canon Hill, NW6.

Christian names

From Mr Leslie Dunkling
Sir, Christopher Bond (January 7) suggests that we compare the first names of comprehensive school children with the names on Mrs Brown's Lists (January 5). The schoolchildren would be at least 11 years old, however, and some of the differences are revealed would be attributable to rapid changes in fashion rather than differing social backgrounds.

It is possible to compare the name-giving habits of Times readers with the population as a whole by making a count in the Registrar General's Indexes of Births for England and Wales. These are freely available to the public at St Catherine's House, but there is at least a year's delay before births are recorded there.

Comparisons have been made for

past years and show that names like Tracy and Jason have been very popular nationally but have failed to appeal to Times readers. By contrast, names like Lucy and James have done well in *The Times* but have been far less popular nationally. There are many names, however, such as Sarah and Richard which have appeared at all social levels.

As it happens, sexual discrimination in naming is far more apparent than that suggested by Mr Bond. The vast majority of names being used clearly indicate the sex of the child, and it is still the girls who are saddled with outlandish, "romantic" names.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE DUNKLING,
Honorary Secretary,
The Names Society,
7 Aragon Avenue,
Thames Ditton, Surrey.

Staffing of the Diplomatic Service

From Mr Christopher Tugendhat, Conservative MP for City of London and Westminster, South

Sir, At a time when the Diplomatic Service is subject to increasing criticism, it is right to pay tribute to the efficiency and dedication of its members. Both as an Opposition spokesman on Foreign Affairs and as one of the MPs who initiated the recent spate of Parliamentary Questions concerning the scale and cost of our overseas representation, I gladly do this.

I do hope, however, that Lord Gore-Booth and his successors still in the Service appreciate that if MPs are to elicit the facts and figures that will enable us to form a view of the present situation and to consider what, if any, changes would be desirable, such questioning is absolutely necessary. Indeed, it is the only way to avoid prejudice getting mixed up with facts in the way Lord Gore-Booth fears.

I should also like to take this opportunity to make two other observations on his letter (January 7). In the first place, I do not think comparisons between the reduction of Diplomatic Service staff since 1965 and the performance of other government departments is strictly valid. As has been frequently pointed out during the public debate over the size of the Civil Service, the main reasons why domestic departments grow is that Parliament is forever passing Acts that load additional work on to their shoulders. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office does not suffer from this incubus.

Secondly, it is not right to imply, as Lord Gore-Booth does, that those who are asking questions about the Diplomatic Service wish to undertake an excessive pruning of its remembrance. Some aspects of that remembrance are unique and others unusual. It is surely right that in these stringent times the Diplomatic Service, like everyone else, should be obliged to question its practices and to search for economies where these might reasonably be made.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER TUGENDHAT,
House of Commons,
January 7.

Noise of Concorde

From Mr Ian Bell
Sir, Mr Douglas Hurd's letter printed in your issue of January 3, which did not reach me until late yesterday, contains the enlightened proposal that the Diplomatic Services of the European Community should be pooled.

As a former member of our own Diplomatic Service, from which I retired two years and a half ago, I

Noise of Concorde

am sure that many of us would regard this as a very welcome and logical development arising from a thorough-going merger of the foreign policies of the Nine. Undoubtedly, however, complete integration would hardly be practicable, even in "the smaller overseas countries" as Mr Hurd suggests.

any case the change could hardly be brought about overnight but would have to be made in stages. On the other hand, if the differentiation were made, not as Mr Hurd implies, between the larger and the smaller countries, but between the separate functions of diplomatic representation, a start could be made quite soon.

In the functions the lists he includes "protecting subjects". There is already agreement in principle on the introduction of a European Community passport. This presumably means the establishment of a Community Passport Office (or offices); and this could be the starting point of a Community Consular Service which could take over all the strictly consular functions—protection of the persons, property and interests of Community citizens, notarial acts, and so on—at present performed by the Consular Sections and provincial Consulates of the Nine. In this restricted domain the existing procedures of the individual member countries are very much alike and could easily be harmonized completely; and collaboration among staffs of up to nine different nationalities need not be hampered by possibly conflicting foreign policies of their national governments.

Integration in this sphere could have many beneficial results. It would certainly reduce national diplomatic staffs and expenditure. It would be to the advantage of individual Community citizens, since Community Consuls in overseas countries would, generally speaking, carry more weight with local authorities and governments than separate representation does at present; and this in turn should reduce the number of cases in which protection issues become political. It would also be a useful exercise in intra-Community collaboration in a new field, with the administrative experience gained in this way, facilitate eventual integration over the whole range of Community diplomatic representation once current differences over foreign policy have been ironed out.

Yours and
IAN BELL,
Livers House,
Broadford,
Isle of Skye,
January 6.

From Mr C. M. Bernard
Sir, Your headline (January 6) referring to the American inquiry into Concorde, and reading "Scale evenly tipped", brings great comfort to people like me who feared they might be unevenly balanced.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
C. M. BERNARD,
Oxford & Cambridge
University Club,
71 Pall Mall, SW1,
January 6.

Aeschylus's *Agamemnon*. As is the custom, the original Greek text will be used.

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD OSBORNE,
Old Rectory,
Bradfield,
Berkshire.

No PoW remolds

From Mr Graham Remolds
Sir, Concerning the report printed in *The Times* on January 6 entitled "Anglo-Japanese reunion plan for Rangoon bridge", I have in informal conversation with a correspondent been misinformed.

The report implies that I was a PoW myself. Mercifully I was not. I am but acting as an intermediary for Mr Takashi Nagase regarding a possible reunion in Japan itself: a Kwaï reunion has never been mentioned and I would think it unlikely. G. E. REYNOLDS,
Chesham, Buckinghamshire,
January 7.

From Mr Christian Darnton
Sir, A propos—or *brefaire* *jener Saché*—the German borrowings from the English language, of which some extraordinary examples were given in today's issue of *The Times* (January 7): in 1938 there was a display cabinet in the Hauptbahnhof (main railway station) in München (Munich). This cabinet contained a very kind of knickerbocker, jacket-and-trousers, bearing the label "Scotch weekend suit". Summertime it was a luridly-coloured made-up bow tie, described as "Sport-propeller".

Ergebens?
(Your obedient servant),
CHRISTIAN DARNTON,
Quinn,
Newnham,
Bradford-on-Avon,
Wiltshire.

From Mrs Patricia Rothman
Sir, Will debate be the first casualty of the Franglais war?
Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA ROTHMAN,
25 Norfolk Road, NW8.

Staging Aeschylus

From Mr Richard Osborne

Sir, Readers who were interested by your striking editorial "Aeschylus Still Stages the Stage" (January 3) may be interested to know that the 1976 Bradford Creek Play, to be performed in the open-air Greek Theatre in early June, will be the play discussed in the editorial,

Closing the performance gap in industry, page 19

IMF ministers reach full agreement to sell gold and float exchange rates

From Frank Vogel
Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 8

Finance ministers at the Interim Committee meeting of the International Monetary Fund here have reached full agreement on issues concerning gold and exchange rates.

According to ministers from Britain, the United States and West Germany, they were close to full agreement this morning on a scheme to increase access by member countries to the resources of the IMF.

It has been decided, conference sources said, to change the articles of the IMF to end the official role of gold in the monetary system and to permit the floating of currencies.

The exchange rate agreement envisages an eventual return to fixed rates, but officials from the Swiss and Italian central banks, as well as from the IMF, admitted that in the short term this should have little impact on the currency markets.

On gold, the official price of \$120 an ounce, is to be abolished with the ratification, possibly within 18 months, of this agreement by the governments of IMF member countries.

The way has also been cleared for the IMF to sell up to 25 million ounces of gold for development aid purposes and the restitution of a further 25 million ounces to member countries.

The gold bullion price fell by \$2.50 an ounce yesterday, to close in London at \$136.00. This is the lowest closing level for almost a year. Dealers said that trading was fairly quiet and that investors appeared to be bating

difficulties in assessing the likely impact of the sales agreement on the market.

Mr. Healey, the Chancellor, said here that the IMF gold sales could start as early as next month. But central bankers from several countries said it might take at least three months to prepare the details of the sales.

Bankers suggested that the Bank for International Settlements would be a prominent agency acting as agent for central banks. They added that there appeared to be little doubt that the French and the Swiss central banks would use the BIS for this purpose to ensure that the free market price did not slump as a result of the sales.

They thought there was a good chance that the Belgians, Dutch and West Germans would also bid for modest amounts. However, a few officials, including Mr. René Larré, general manager of the BIS, doubted if such strong central bank interest would materialize.

The most difficult issue to resolve here centres on increasing access by member countries to IMF resources. The aim is to enable developing countries in serious payments difficulties to borrow more.

The Americans have declared that they will go along with this proposal on condition that the surplus Opec countries, using their own currencies convertible and usable by the IMF in granting loans. But the Opec countries staunchly oppose this. There were indications late today that the question of the

IMF using Opec currencies might be shelved temporarily and that increased access to IMF funds would be agreed, although at a level lower than that demanded by the developing countries.

These countries wanted a flat 50 per cent increase in their credit lines to the IMF.

The committee appears to involve a 50 per cent increase in the amount that countries could borrow under their first tranche entitlement (one tranche equals one quarter of the total borrowing volume a country can obtain from the IMF).

This would be followed by a 33 1/3 per cent increase in the other three tranches. First tranche borrowing would be increased, while increasing stiffer conditions can be imposed by the IMF on the later borrowings.

Should this solution be accepted, Mr. Healey explained here, Britain's borrowing ability from the fund would be greatly increased.

At present Britain can borrow up to 2,800 million special drawing rights (one SDR equals \$1.70). Its first tranche under the agreement would be increased from 700m SDR to 1,050m, while its other three tranches would be increased from 2,100m SDR to 2,800m.

Thus Britain's total borrowing ability from the IMF would rise from 2,800m SDR to 3,850m.

Britain is unlikely to draw on this full amount, but could take advantage of the first tranche increase, conference sources said.

Some believe that a real growth rate in GNP in the industrial countries this year of more than 4 to 5 per cent would lead to a potentially disastrous situation.

They point out that higher growth rates would produce a sharp acceleration in demand creating bottlenecks which would lead to fresh inflationary expectations.

These respected international officials said that under such conditions governments would probably feel they had no choice other than to return to restrictive policies, leading most probably to another synchronized world recession late in 1977.

The economists from the OECD and the IMF are concerned about whether those countries which suffered a sharp cyclical deterioration in their balance of payments could obtain much relief this year,

even accepting the general economic forecasts being made.

Mr. Healey pointed out that extremely severe balance-of-payments problems were likely to continue both the non-oil-producing developing and many primary product-producing developed countries.

Mr. William Simon, the American Treasury Secretary, sharply disagreed, and has suggested that the substantial upturn in the economies of the major industrial countries this year will result in a much healthier balance of payments situation for the developing countries than World Bank, IMF and OECD reports suggest.

Mr. Healey rejects the proposition that moderate year-on-year growth for the industrial countries was an acceptable target for 1976.

Privately, Mr. Simon accepts the arguments of the international economists here, but the American elections this year will make it impossible for the United States Administration to seek a rate of growth below its present 1976 forecast of 6 to 7 per cent.

Mr. Healey said that there is a danger of this, but warned the finance ministers that there was the grave danger that the rate of growth in many major industrial countries might prove too great.

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even accepting the general economic forecasts being made.

W German jobless total jumps by 10 per cent

From Peter Norman
Bonn, Jan 8

West Germany's unemployment total rose last month by 109,200, or nearly 10 per cent, to 1,220,400, making 5.3 per cent of the working population jobless at the year's end and against 4.9 per cent at the end of November.

According to Federal Labour Office statistics issued today, unemployment averaged 1,220,400 last year, or 5.3 per cent, compared with the 1974 average of 582,500, or 4.7 per cent.

Herr Josef Stöckl, president of the Labour Office, told a press conference in Nuremberg that December's upward movement was caused by seasonal factors. But while there were no signs of a cyclical worsening in the situation, the latest figures had produced no indication of an improvement, he said.

A drop of 8.1 per cent in the number of vacant jobs to 163,400 last month was exclusively a seasonal phenomenon, Herr Stöckl added. He refused to draw any firm conclusions as regards the economy from the fact that the numbers affected by short-time working rose by 8.5 per cent, or nearly 59,000, to 748,200 between mid-November and mid-December.

While signs of an improvement in the economy have still to appear in the unemployment figures, the Economics Ministry in Bonn pushed the latest provisional data on industrial orders, showing a modest upturn in demand. On a seasonally adjusted basis, new orders rose by 2 per cent in November compared with October.

The figures were to be treated with caution, because they can be subject to considerable revision.

Belgian increase: The number of persons in Belgium entitled to unemployment benefits rose to 202,025, or 8.72 per cent, at the end of December from 222,437 at mid-December and 140,100 a year earlier.

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Government spending gap narrows

By Melvyn Westlake

With only three-quarters of the current financial year gone, the central government borrowing requirement is already almost as large as the original Budget estimate for the whole of 1975-76.

The ultimate size of the deficit between revenues and expenditure now depends heavily on the next three months, which are traditionally a period for big tax-gathering. But figures published yesterday in the *London Gazette* confirm the growing impression that the deficit will be a good deal less than the pessimistic estimates common a few months ago.

They show a steady reduction in the cumulative rate at which Government expenditure on *Simply Services* and *Capital Expenditure* has exceeded Standing Services in the comparable period of 1974-75.

At the same time, revenues in the last two months appear to be running strongly ahead of the level set at this time last year.

Spending in the first nine months of 1975-76, amounting to £26,126m, an increase of £7,233m, or 38 per cent, above the similar 1974-75 period. But this compares with a cumulative increase running at some 47 per cent after only the first two quarters of this year, and the trend is still downwards, according to the Treasury.

The planned increase had been about 15 per cent. On the other side of those national accounts, total revenue receipts in the period April to December 1975, amounted to £20,378m, an increase of £4,535m, or 28 per cent, above the corresponding period for 1974. The Budget estimate was for an increase of 19 per cent over the financial year as a whole.

The figures for expenditure and revenue in December are particularly striking. For the second consecutive month, revenue shows a greater rise over a year ago than spending, at 36 and 22 per cent respectively. This was the reverse of the situation in six out of the first seven months of the financial year.

The cumulative deficit on the Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund so far this financial year has reached some £7,664m. Although this figure excludes other small items within the central government borrowing requirement, such as national insurance fund flows, it none the less gives a broad indication of the borrowing requirement, which for the full 1975-76 year was originally estimated at £7,827m.

If the final three months showed the traditional excess of revenues over spending, then the borrowing requirement might not be very widely off the original target.

However, the seasonal pattern was thrown out when the last quarter of 1974-75 proved to be in deficit by almost £1,000m. This was partly because of unusually high spending and partly because of low corporation tax payments.

It remains unclear how buoyant revenues will be this year. Earlier it had appeared that the total public sector borrowing requirement, which in addition to central government borrowing indicates that state industries and local authorities could be as much as £2,000m to £3,000m above target, would be exceeded by as much as £1,000m to £2,000m in recent weeks.

Shipyards 'facing closures'

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Many European shipyards face the prospect of closure or amalgamation with other yards, leading to substantial redundancies.

In the face of fierce and successful competition by the Japanese yards in picking up the few orders that are available, the yards in Europe look decidedly bleak.

There are forecasts today that yards in Britain may have to lay off up to 10 per cent of their workers before the legislation which will bring the industry into public ownership has been enacted.

European shipyards have been attacked by the Japanese for "dumping" prices for new contracts.

In many cases these have been up to 45 per cent below prices quoted by European yards for the same ships, with the result that the Japanese have been attracting the bulk of all new orders placed in recent months.

In its latest survey of the shipping scene, *Million & Co* (Shanghai), of London, noted a certain ambivalence in European attitudes towards Japan. Government-subsidized shipowning companies within the EEC were still placing orders with Japanese yards, while their domestic yards were desperately short of work.

The company forecast that closures and amalgamations of yards in Europe were likely to be the outcome of the present recession.

Meanwhile, the industry journal, *Marine Week*, stated that unless there were substantial new orders for British yards in the next few months, redundancies amounting to 10 per cent of the industry's workforce could be expected.

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Boveri rights issue poser for Mr Varley

By John Brennan

Brown Boveri's proposed £2.1m rights issue poses an intriguing problem for Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry. As nominal holder of the Government's 12.27 per cent stake in BBE, he will have the option of subscribing £266,000 of taxpayers' money, taking up the one-for-four issue, or letting the issue pass, and thereby guaranteeing that full equity control of Britain's major industrial instruments group passes to the Swiss group, Brown Boveri.

The Government's dilemma stems from the decision of the Industrial Reorganization Corporation in 1963 to pay £3m for a 24 per cent stake in the ailing George Kent Group. This share stake proved to be the key to the recovery for Kent. Since then, years and £3m after first stepping in to save the instrument-making industry, the Government could find itself a minority shareholder in a Swiss-controlled group which Varley takes up his rights or not.

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Car delivery men vote to stay out

By R. W. Shakespeare

The week-old nationwide strike by car transporter drivers, which is stopping deliveries to dealers and to docks for export, is to go on, and it now threatens to disrupt production at some assembly plants.

Yesterday the 250 drivers from the Liverpool depot of Silcock and Colling, where the dispute over pay demands began on Monday, voted to stay out and to meet again next Thursday.

In all about 1,000 drivers employed by the company at seven depots up and down the country are on strike. It seems certain that the strikers elsewhere will follow the Liverpool lead and stay out.

On Monday shop stewards from all of the depots will meet in Coventry to decide a joint policy. Among matters likely to be discussed is the possibility of a "sit-in" at the assembly plant at Coventry, which has indicated that it will be prepared to meet the company and transport and General Workers' Union representatives next week in an effort to resolve the dispute.

The drivers are claiming the maximum £5 a week pay increase allowed under the Government's pay code "with-out strings". The company says the increase must be linked to improved productivity.

Meanwhile, 8,000 cars, worth more than £16m, are being stored in and around Leyland's assembly plant at Cowley, because of a three-month-old overtime ban and work to rule by the factory's 260 inspectors.

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Warning against too rapid growth

From our US Economics Correspondent

Leyland and Ford defer rises to ensure competitive edge

By Clifford Webb

New-car buyers are benefiting from a price war with a difference being waged by the two largest manufacturers in the British market. With the next round of three-monthly price increases already overdue, Leyland Cars and Ford are sitting tight waiting for the other to make the first move. Vauxhall increased prices by an average 4.39 per cent a week ago, keeping strictly to the three-monthly cycle which began nearly two years ago. Their previous increase was on September 30.

But Ford, which put its prices up a day earlier, has still made no move.

Leyland's comparable increase was due on September 15, but Mr Keith Hopkins, Leyland sales and marketing director, said: "We are sick of being the price leaders and allowing Ford to adjust their subsequent increases to give them an edge."

He kept his word and did not announce new prices until October 6—seven days after Ford.

Last night both companies refused to admit they were trying to outpace each other. A Ford spokesman said: "It would be disastrous to the Price Commission if we indicated when our prices would be going up."

At Leyland Cars a spokesman said: "A waiting game? What ever gave you that impression? We are applying normal commercial practices and if that makes us look more aggressive than in the past I won't quarrel with that."

"But something beneficial to the motorist is emerging from the present situation. Manufacturers are doing their best to break away from the three-monthly cycle of price increases which have been forced on them for nearly two years by soaring inflation."

Dealers for both companies believe the impasse will not be broken until the second half of the month, and are adamant that it will be the competition which gives way.

Meanwhile they have another and more pressing worry—a sharp drop in demand for low-mileage, high-priced, used cars. Because stocks of these models are still mounting some dealers are compiling waiting lists of motorists who want part exchange deals for new cars.

A Leyland dealer said: "I am not able to do a deal when I have disposed of a similar high-priced secondhand car. I already have too much capital tied up in unsold secondhands. A waiting list is the most sensible answer."

Rolls export earnings rise 50 per cent

By Malcolm Brown

Rolls-Royce Motors boosted its export earnings by 50 per cent last year. Mr David Plawton, group managing director, said in London yesterday that when all the figures were available it was likely that 1975 would show exports of more than £33m—about 42 per cent of total turnover.

For the first time, the company built more than 3,000 cars last year, 59 per cent of which were sold abroad. These exports earned £22.4m.

Sales to America were also a 14th record, with 860 cars sold retail—a 21 per cent improvement over 1974.

The company's other main area of operation—diesel engines—direct exports earned more than £7m.

Mr Plawton said yesterday that about £5m to £6m would be invested in expansion and modernization this year.

Chrysler picks Japanese mini for U.S. market

Los Angeles, Jan 8.—Chrysler Corporation's Plymouth dealers are being urged to increase sales by expanding United States mini car market with a Japanese import, the Arrow.

Plymouth unveiled the model at a preview here on Wednesday. It goes on public display next week at the Detroit Motor Show.

Company officials said the car—about the size of the Toyota Corolla and Chevrolet Chevette—will carry a retail price starting at \$3,175 (about £1,587), excluding options and taxes. That makes it competitive with other small domestic and imported cars.

The Arrow, built by Mitsubishi, is the third Japanese car to be shipped to America by United States makers for 1976. It joins the Dodge Colt, also made by Mitsubishi, and the Buick Opel, built by Isuzu.

Search for new UK coal deposits redoubled

The exploration programme for new coal deposits will be nearly double the planned level, thanks to rapid drilling work by the contractors carrying out the National Coal Board's schedules.

Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the NCB, said yesterday that plans for the current year envisaged 59 boreholes, including four offshore holes to confirm under-seas reserves off the north-east coast.

The programme had been increased to 102 holes, and next year the board was considering spending £5m on the search for new sites which would involve 156 deep holes and 25 intermediate ones.

By March, 1977, the board should have enough information to decide the sites of all new pits which would be needed in the industry's 10-year development plan.

Exploration was adding new deposits to Britain's coal reserves last year. "In other words, we are finding coal four times as fast as we are currently mining it," Sir Derek said during a visit to Florence Colliery in Staffordshire.

Aid worth £26.2m given to the NCB under the Coal Industry Act this year has been formally approved by the European Commission in Brussels.

NEDO chief calls for modernization grants to engineering sector

By Ronald Kershaw

Northern Industrial Correspondent

Introduction of modernization grants for the engineering industry as a spur to early investment was advocated by Sir Ronald McIntosh, Director General of the National Economic Development Office, yesterday at Leeds.

Sir Ronald, who has put his ideas to the Chancellor and expects a reply next week, envisages grants for schemes costing up to £500,000 and started before the end of September.

He bases his views on the premise that as Britain went into the world recession later than its competitors it would emerge from it later.

"The time up to the end of this year and the beginning of next," he said, "There will be a big job of building up investment and this will delay investment."

"Our top priority is to get an investment boom, bringing forward investment into 1976 which would not take place until 1977."

There were two choices, Sir Ronald continued. We could carry on with the present trend, slow growth of the economy, higher inflation, less investment and a later recovery from recession than our competitors which meant we would miss the next boom. We would not have the capacity to respond to the rise in world trade and our situation would be serious.

Alternatively we could modernize and reequip industry to bring inflation down, at least to below 10 per cent in 1977 and to get increased productivity as growth returns to the economy.

He said: "If we do that in the next three or four years when North Sea oil comes along we could have a very different picture in 1980-85."

"We could have a situation in which we had a modern industrial base, an expanding manufacturing sector, a steady but not spectacular rise in incomes and full employment. It is how we respond in the next two years that counts."

Asked about the possibility of help for the private sector of the steel industry, Sir Ronald said he hoped some sort of arrangement could be made with the private sector. There was a case for non-ferrous metals.

Peter Hill writes: Members of the British Independent Steel Producers' Association are giving careful consideration to the possibility of low interest rate loans to the industry in reply to their inquiry on the possibility of government assistance to support stockpiling by the private sector.

The British Steel Corporation is to receive a mixture of low interest loans and increased public dividend capital amounting to £70m to finance the building up of stocks of semi-finished steel so that it can take full advantage when market demand improves.

Industrial glove makers seek import controls

By Stephen Goodwin

Industrial glove manufacturers are preparing a fresh appeal to the Department of Trade for some form of import control to protect their sales in the home market.

Large imports of cheap general purpose industrial gloves from the Far East and East Europe have already hit United Kingdom production which has fallen by 60 per cent over the past two years. Short-time working and redundancies have resulted.

In a "normal" year manufacturers would have expected United Kingdom sales of between £15m and £20m; but according to Mr Edward Little, chairman of the National Association of Glove Manufacturers, these are down by about 40 per cent.

"It is a real crisis," says Charles Ockwell and Co., Swindon, who is suffering with the rest. Over the past 18 months the overall workforce, which includes some outworkers, has been cut from about 120 to about 70.

The association claims that imports of general purpose industrial gloves are selling at such low prices that British manufacturers are being driven out of their markets.

'Unfair' tax burden on independent

Too heavy a tax burden is placed on the self-employed, according to the Independent Taxpayers' Society in its pre-Budget appeal to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

In an open letter to the Chancellor, Mr William Clark, the chairman, points out that the self-employed are prejudicially affected by income tax, transfer tax, capital gains tax, the fact that their income from savings is treated as unearned, and the higher rates of National Insurance contributions.

Among the specific recommendations suggested by the society, which has over 6,000 members, are an increase in personal allowances; a rise in the threshold for the investment income surcharge; higher child allowances; changes in the law relating to the new capital gains tax on investments held for more than two years.

Dutch favour European share option market

Bonn, Jan 8.—The commission of the Amsterdam stock exchange today discussed setting up a West European Association for share option trading and, according to sources close to the meeting, gave the green light for further study of the question.

The meeting discussed the issue in general terms in the light of a recent visit to the Netherlands by a Dutch share option market in Chicago, by a special committee from the Amsterdam bourse.

Although the sources said discussions were in a very early stage, those associated with the project are understood to be optimistic that the new market can be set up in due course.

Among the issues still to be resolved is the attitude of the Dutch government, which although informed of progress to date has yet to react officially to the proposals.

The special committee which visited Chicago is in favour of setting up a market that would deal in option contracts of international shares.

Fire insurance centre project

Universal Insurance Co of the Irish Republic together with other insurance services management companies is to establish a fire insurance centre in the Shannon industrial estate.

The operation is expected to create around 300 white-collar jobs within the next four years.

Pending construction of premises, the company will rent accommodation at Shannon Airport House on Shannon Industrial Estate and hopes to be underwriting by June this year.

Hopes mount for integrated engineering structure

By Derek Harris

A new peace formula for ending the controversy over reorganization of the engineering industry has now emerged. Increasing support among the 15 bodies that make up the Council of Engineering Institutions.

There is a chance it could keep in the fold the Institution of Electrical Engineers which, at the beginning of this month, handed in a year's notice of resignation from CEI.

The Electricals, who regarded a compromise solution accepted by the other organizations last year as not sufficient, would not commit themselves last night on the new plan.

But in informal discussions a number of the institutions' leaders, and those at CEI headquarters, have discerned a greater flexibility by everybody towards reaching a new basis for working.

The formula is a changed voting system that would to some extent relate weight to the size of an institution's membership.

This means that the larger organizations, notably the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, the Institution of Civil Engineers, would have several votes each to the one of the smaller bodies.

The idea came from the Mechanicals, and Mr Garth Watson, the CEI's secretary, has also emphasized the need to evaluate "the momentum of reform."

For the CEI, faced with the prospect of a possible public inquiry, there is a big premium in getting its house in order quickly. It has now agreed a plan to set up a Fellowship body for eminent engineers—in effect a Royal Society of Engineers—which would complement the existing Royal Society that covers science as a whole.

There are 71 engineer Fellows of the Royal Society and they are being invited also to become members of the new engineering Fellowship.

A big role for the new body would be providing top-level advice to the profession through CEI and especially to government on matters of importance.

Later this month the CEI is expected to publish its report on professional engineers' increasing difficulties in securing better pay and conditions.

And in the private sector, where most of the 200,000 engineers who still do not belong to a union, the CEI report is expected to urge them to do so.

It is expected in short-listed preferred unions, turning its back on the more militant unions like the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and favouring those with an already large professional membership like the United Kingdom Association of Professional Engineers (UKAPE), the Association of Professional Scientists and Technologists (APST), and the Association of Supervisory and Executive Engineers (ASEE).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Recognizing the influences at the root of British industry's malaise

From Mr Anthony A. Letts

Sir, Mr Magee, in his article in issue of January 5, is guilty of the very fault of which he accuses management in industry. He is lazy in his arguments in that he over-simplifies a very complex problem: he attempts to extract political capital at the expense of providing an analysis in depth and he is quite unable to deliver the goods in the form of a few practical policies which might help to solve some of the problems which contribute to the malaise of British industry.

The malaise of British industry deserves more than a few cheap gibes from Mr Magee. I believe it is true to say that neither workers nor management in this country are intrinsically less effective than in other countries. Why, then, are we less productive and why do we have so significantly less than most of our competitors? I think there are probably a number of basic factors influencing the climate in which we work and which contribute to the malaise of British industry.

Discipline and people's attitude to discipline has changed fundamentally in the past 20 years. Management must, no doubt, accept some of the blame for this, but I would suggest that most of the blame must be levelled at our educational system and at our politicians who are becoming increasingly expert in offering the soft option of the welfare state.

Experience suggests that business performance is significantly affected by the degree of competition in the economy. Mr Magee is quite right when he makes some comparisons between Germany and this country. Prices and profits are kept relatively low in Germany because their industrial climate is very competitive. This competition, together with a higher and more consistent rate of growth, are the prime reasons for Germany's higher rate of investment.

There is an increasing tendency in this country to solve problems in a bureaucratic way. Prices and incomes control, legislation on industrial relations and nationalization itself are all examples of this. If governments could be persuaded to spend a little less time in meddling directly in industry and a little more time in seeking to influence the environment within which industry has to operate, then I think a more positive contribution could be made towards some of our current deep-rooted problems.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY A. LETTS,
Managing Director,
Charles Letts & Co Ltd,
Diary House,
Borough Road,
London, SE1 1DW,
January 6.

for Germany's higher rate of investment.

There is an increasing tendency in this country to solve problems in a bureaucratic way. Prices and incomes control, legislation on industrial relations and nationalization itself are all examples of this. If governments could be persuaded to spend a little less time in meddling directly in industry and a little more time in seeking to influence the environment within which industry has to operate, then I think a more positive contribution could be made towards some of our current deep-rooted problems.

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students against industry, together with the self-delusion of the mercantile class of his generation." Robert Heilbroner (January 6) takes a similar line and asks, without really answering, people go, if they do not enter industry. In fact, Macbeath could help him; they go to the trade unions where they cannot get in!

Whilst such eminent gentlemen blame the other neatly stereotyped side and talk about taking action, the economy bleeds. They may be surprised, even horrified, to find that there are people actually taking action through various forms of self-help. More remarkable is that there are a growing number of groups springing up spontaneously to help such risk-takers. The mutual aid programmes developed are not just for industrial managers to develop their organisations and themselves by facing and tackling, live, their social organisational problems. They include a major trade union tackling an internal dilemma, and many civil servants learning how to serve their own organizations through learning activities include GEC's Developing Senior Managers Programme, Manchester Business School's Joint Development Activities, the new sponsored Institute of Works Management's Managerial Clinics, and Action Learning Projects' Consortium, to name only a few.

Yet we rarely read of such constructive developments even on the weekly "Management" page, let alone give them regular prime space. Is *The Times* so much more interested in analysis and exhortation than motivation through examples in action?

Yours faithfully,
R. GARRATT,
25 Camden Park Road,
London NW1 9AX,
January 7.

Books as the tools of one's trade

From Mr H. Saunders

Sir, The juxtaposition of the Law Report "Judge feels bound to refuse tax relief on lawyer's books" and the article on taxation "Drink a toast to the tax deductible office party" (December 20) makes interesting reading.

Far be it from me to decry either the latter or the learned judge's reluctance with which, according to the report, he found himself bound by precedent to dispense the law and thus to dispense with justice.

The obvious and regrettable inference of this juxtaposition is that our tax law encourages excessive consumption (which the nation cannot afford), whilst discouraging investment in the tools of one's trade (which the nation so badly needs).

The case of the lawyer's books hinged, as I understand the report, on the question whether or not books are "plant" within the meaning of the Finance Act 1971. This question having been decided in the negative, it is too much to hope that our legislators will, when they come to draft the next Finance Act, take due cognizance of the judgment in this case, in order to right this manifest wrong?

Meanwhile, could not taxpayers in future similar cases argue that the books were acquired for use as door stops, desk ornaments, paper weights or the like (all of which would presumably be regarded as tax deductible "plant"), leaving the Inland Revenue to discharge the onus of proving that they were in fact used exclusively for reference purposes? I would submit that:

(a) there is no obligation at law on any Schedule D taxpayer to refrain from foolish extravagance or "plant";

(b) a sledge instance—proved by contemporaneous affidavits by witnesses of the books being used for any such purpose—would put them in the class of "plant" within the meaning of the Act;

(c) such classification would not be negated by any subsequent use for reference purposes.

Yours faithfully,
H. SAUNDERS,
Springfield,
Harewood Road,
Chalfont St Giles,
Buckinghamshire.

Status of the engineer

From Mr Eric Gabriel

Sir, The professors of mechanical engineering in northern universities suggest the setting up of a Royal Commission to investigate the status and recruitment of professional engineers to industry (December 27). As a sometime graduate in mechanical engineering of a northern university, it now appears to me that the debate on this topic within the profession over the last 20 years has had no result. A Royal Commission may be the last resort, but I wonder if either the profession or the country has enough time left for this solution.

Perhaps status is not to be given or defined after all, but earned and achieved. When the country is proud of the achievements of its manufacturing industry, engineers will be proud to work in it.

For the time being, we could try selecting the most able graduates, in and for manufacturing industry, giving them responsibility and authority (and status); reward them generously, strictly for results achieved. It might work quite quickly. It might even be cheaper than a Royal Commission.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC GABRIEL,
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Cobleshire Drive,
West Kilbride,
Ayrshire, KA23 9DU.

31 days in February

From Mr R. Harrison

Sir, I detect a growing concern in the "relentless" trend towards an unbroken public holiday from Christmas to New Year.

One solution, simple but perhaps controversial, would be to alter 28 days to December and 29 to February. This would allow the proclamation of the desired public holiday but in a form more consistent with economic needs. It would allow a bonus of an extra day of holiday each fourth year if the extra day were to be added, rather more rationally than now, in the end of each leap year, and would even give another day in which to celebrate the turn of the century.

I anticipate the response of those who can always argue why one should never do anything about anything and even some of their arguments, not the least of which will surely be that February does not rhyme with September.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN HARRISON,
21 Parracombe Way,
Northampton NN3 3ND.

Kelsey Industries Limited

Statistics from the Report of the Chairman, Mr. J. G. Moss, and the Accounts for the 12 months to 30 September 1975.

	1974/75	1973/74
	£	£
Turnover	12,123,000	11,418,000
Direct exports	3,625,700	3,561,200
Profit before tax	978,600	977,075
Profit after tax	432,540	430,638
Dividends	101,136	93,772
	(21.07%)	(19.75%)
Earnings per share	11.8p	11.2p
Retained trading profits	351,404	336,866
Depreciation	167,273	126,948
Net assets	3,648,649	3,261,224

Interim Statement

half year ended 31st October 1975

	Half year to 31.10.75 £000's	Half year to 31.10.74 £000's	Year to 30.9.75 £000's
External Sales	10,526	9,719	18,335
Profit before tax	1,157	1,056	2,152
Profit after tax at 52% and Minority Interest	516	431	945
Earnings per share	2.10p	1.94p	3.53p
Interim Dividend	0.46475p	0.4350p	—
Total Dividend	—	—	1.15494p

Copies of the Interim Report can be obtained from the Secretary, Alliance Alders Ltd., Lichfield Road, Troworth, Staffs.



COMET

TV, HI-FI, RADIO AND DOMESTIC APPLIANCE RETAILERS

- Profits before tax amounted to £2,259,000. Such an increase in profits could not have been achieved had the Government not given two and a half weeks' notice of its intention to raise V.A.T. from 8% to 25% on May 1st, resulting in a rush by the public to buy before prices rose.
- Three further warehouses were opened in Dundee, Newcastle and Brighton.
- We have already opened satellite shops in Blackburn, Bolton, Preston, Liverpool, Barnsley, York, Stoke-on-Trent, Gloucester and Bournemouth and they have proved successful. It is our intention to open about 150 more during the next three years.
- The immediate outlook is not good but I expect trade to improve in the Autumn of 1976 and we shall be well placed to take advantage of this improvement.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	1975	1974
Year ended 30th August	£'000	£'000
Turnover	49,767	43,648
Profit before the following deductions	5,618	4,441
Employee's aggregate remuneration	3,118	2,991
Payable to Government as taxation	1,204	845
Dividends to Shareholders (after certain waivers)	278	333
Leaving Earnings retained to finance expansion and inflation	1,018	272
Earnings per share	8.5p	5.0p

COMET RADIOVISION SERVICES LIMITED

Copies of the full Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, Comet Radiovision Services Limited, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 431, 433, 435, 437, 439, 441, 443, 445, 447, 449, 451, 453, 455, 457, 459, 461, 463, 465, 467, 469, 471, 473, 475, 477, 479, 481, 483, 485, 487, 489, 491, 493, 495, 497, 499, 501, 503, 505, 507, 509, 511, 513, 515, 517, 519, 521, 523, 525, 527, 529, 531, 533, 535, 537, 539, 541, 543, 545, 547, 549, 551, 553, 555, 557, 559, 561, 563, 565, 567, 569, 571, 573, 575, 577, 579, 581, 583, 585, 587, 589, 591, 593, 595, 597, 599, 601, 603, 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615, 617, 619, 621, 623, 625, 627, 629, 631, 633, 635, 637, 639, 641, 643, 645, 647, 649, 651, 653, 655, 657, 659, 661, 663, 665, 667, 669, 671, 673, 675, 677, 679, 681, 683, 685, 687, 689, 691, 693, 695, 697, 699, 701, 703, 705, 707, 709, 711, 713, 715, 717, 719, 721, 723, 725, 727, 729, 731, 733, 735, 737, 739, 741, 743, 745, 747, 749, 751, 753, 755, 757, 759, 761, 763, 765, 767, 769, 771, 773, 775, 777, 779, 781, 783, 785, 787, 789, 791, 793, 795, 797, 799, 801, 803, 805, 807, 809, 811, 813, 815, 817, 819, 821, 823, 825, 827, 829, 831, 833, 835, 837, 839, 841, 843, 845, 847, 849, 851, 853, 855, 857, 859, 861, 863, 865, 867, 869, 871, 873, 875, 877, 879, 881, 883, 885, 887, 889, 891, 893, 895, 897, 899, 901, 903, 905, 907, 909, 911, 913, 915, 917, 919, 921, 923, 925, 927, 929, 931, 933, 935, 937, 939, 941, 943, 945, 947, 949, 951, 953, 955, 957, 959, 961, 963, 965, 967, 969, 971, 973, 975, 977, 979, 981, 983, 985, 987, 989, 991, 993, 995, 997, 999, 1001, 1003, 1005, 1007, 1009, 1011, 1013, 1015, 1017, 1019, 1021, 1023, 1025, 1027, 1029, 1031, 1033, 1035, 1037, 1039, 1041, 1043, 1045, 1047, 1049, 1051, 1053, 1055, 1057, 1059, 1061, 1063, 1065, 1067, 1069, 1071, 1073, 1075, 1077, 1079, 1081, 1083, 1085, 1087, 1089, 1091, 1093, 1095, 1097, 1099, 1101, 1103, 1105, 1107, 1109, 1111, 1113, 1115, 1117, 1119, 1121, 1123, 1125, 1127, 1129, 1131, 1133, 1135, 1137, 1139, 1141, 1143, 1145, 1147, 1149, 1151, 1153, 1155, 1157, 1159, 1161, 1163, 1165, 1167, 1169, 1171, 1173, 1175, 1177, 1179, 1181, 1183, 1185, 1187, 1189, 1191, 1193, 1195, 1197, 1199, 1201, 1203, 1205, 1207, 1209, 1211, 1213, 1215, 1217, 1219, 1221, 1223, 1225, 1227, 1229, 1231, 1233, 1235, 1237, 1239, 1241, 1243, 1245, 1247, 1249, 1251, 1253, 1255, 1257, 1259, 1261, 1263, 1265, 1267, 1269, 1271, 1273, 1275, 1277, 1279, 1281, 1283, 1285, 1287, 1289, 1291, 1293, 1295, 1297, 1299, 1301, 1303, 1305, 1307, 1309, 1311, 1313, 1315, 1317, 1319, 1321, 1323, 1325, 1327, 1329, 1331, 1333, 1335, 1337, 1339, 1341, 1343, 1345, 1347, 1349, 1351, 1353, 1355, 1357, 1359, 1361, 1363, 1365, 1367, 1369, 1371, 1373, 1375, 1377, 1379, 1381, 1383, 1385, 1387, 1389, 1391, 1393, 1395, 1397, 1399, 1401, 1403, 1405, 1407, 1409, 1411, 1413, 1415, 1417, 1419, 1421, 1423, 1425, 1427, 1429, 1431, 1433, 1435, 1437, 1439, 1441, 1443, 1445, 1447, 1449, 1451, 1453, 1455, 1457, 1459, 1461, 1463, 1465, 1467, 1469, 1471, 1473, 1475, 1477, 1479, 1481, 1483, 1485, 1487, 1489, 1491, 1493, 1495, 1497, 1499, 1501, 1503, 1505, 1507, 1509, 1511, 1513, 1515, 1517, 1519, 1521, 1523, 1525, 1527, 1529, 1531, 1533, 1535, 1537, 1539, 1541, 1543, 1545, 1547, 1549, 1551, 1553, 1555, 1557, 1559, 1561, 1563, 1565, 1567, 1569, 1571, 1573, 1575, 1577, 1579, 1581, 1583, 1585, 1587

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Allied Breweries out of step

As expected with the greater exposure to the wine and spirits trade, where sales have been rising, under the last Budget's increased duties, the quarter rise in Allied Breweries pre-tax profits to £26.2m in the last 20 weeks of the year to September 27 does not measure up to the near-40 per cent jump at Bass Charrington and strong performances by several of the regional brewers including Greenall Whitley and Greene King.

Profits for the year up by only 5 per cent to £60.2m on a turnover increase of 24 per cent was sufficient to close the shares, which closed 14p down at 40p. And there are still likely to be qualms about Allied's balance sheet where rising working capital requirements—up £12m last year—largely as a result of the higher excise duties, counterbalance the 40 per cent rise in interest charges to £14.2m.

Elsewhere on the trading side, industrial disputes have cut Allied's share of the beer market and larger sales may also be hindered by the lack of as strong a brand allegiance as the other brewers have developed. There has been some pick-up in business over the Christmas period but wine and spirits sales remain dull. Brewer shares as a whole are likely to under-perform the rest of the market in front of the Budget, where there is talk of yet higher duties.

And there are also indications that the Price Commission is taking a tougher line on price increases. Allied's assertions that it will not sell the Trust Houses Forte stake and the absence of a rights issue has removed some uncertainty about the company's future. The edge over Bass in a yield of 7 per cent.

Final: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £338m
Sales £737m (£544m)
Pre-tax profits £60.2m (£57.4m)
Earnings per share 6.11p (5.86p)
Dividend gross 4.93p (4.48p)

Brown Boveri Kent More Swiss money

Proceeds from Brown Boveri Kent's £1.1m rights issue and the additional £2m of seven-year money to be provided by the company Bank will go to fund the new Kent and is underwritten by the old George Kent Group. Since the injection of Brown Boveri's Swiss management and cash late in 1974, the industrial instruments maker has been put back into the black.

£104,000 loss in 1974 was followed by a £255,000 profit in 1975. Now BBEK forecasts profits of not less than £2.2m in the year to the end of March, 1976. On this basis it hopes to pay a dividend of 1.5384p a share for 1975-76, for a prospective yield of 5.7 per cent on the increased capital.

Priced at 25p, the rights issue has been pitched at a small discount to the current market price of 27p, and is underwritten by the Swiss Brown Boveri parent. With 49 per cent of BBEK's equity already, there must be a good chance that the Swiss will slip over the 50 per cent mark as a result of the issue. Permission to waive the need for a general bid to minority holders if the holding does exceed 50 per cent has been granted by the Takeover Panel.

There seems to be a reasonable case for other shareholders to take up their rights; the additional cash will add momentum to BBEK's profit recovery and plans to strengthen trading links with the Swiss parent could add a new customer for BBEK's instruments and provide a stronger international market.

lating operation. But the old George Kent shareholders have had a rough ride, and may reasonably be reluctant to put up more money now. Moreover, it is never entirely sensible to risk becoming a minority shareholder.

Discount houses Room for a re-rating

Clive Discount was noticeably down against the market yesterday, amid some disappointment that the annualized dividend forecast for the year of 5.2p, throwing up a yield of 7.4 per cent at 30p, was not higher. But while the talk is of "satisfactory profits" during the second six months of last year, the running margins available at that time were much narrower than earlier in the year.

Admittedly the climate for dealing in assets has been extremely good, but the discount market has so far resolutely refused to move back into price, and overall the expectations must be for lower profits this year from Clive.

However, there is no reason to be disconcerted about the investment outlook for the sector as a whole. Recently it has been enjoying some relative revival, but over the past year has underperformed the market by a big margin. On the basis of those contracting running margins—at one point during the Christmas period they were actually negative—that is not too surprising.

There could be a sticky couple of weeks yet to come as well, since the market is expecting much prompter corporate sector payment this year than usual, the result of being of £500m of potential borrowing to demand to meet the need.

But as February comes around, the background looks right to presuppose easier market conditions and the Treasury Bill issues diminish in size there should be some scope for lower rates. This should give the market some capital profits, although, of course, the absence of gilt holdings makes this much less of a factor than it might have been in previous years.

Still, it would seem realistic to anticipate reviving trading conditions during the first half of this year, and given that the discount house sector presently

Samuel Properties has been the target for innumerable bid rumours over the years. And in the past few weeks news of a possible placing of the shares has created speculation in the market that a full scale bid would come from Standard Life Assurance, which provided £38m of Samuel's major property funding operation in December, 1974. Talk of a bid at around a 30 per cent discount to Samuel's reported 10p a share net asset value has kept the shares moving ahead strongly since the new year, and they are up 3p more yesterday at 41p.

Mr Sydney Cowan, Samuel's managing director, confirms that the share placing took place. But as he and his family control over 50 per cent of Samuel's equity he would not be expected to approach and he says: "We've been a public company for 16 years and we've never had an approach from anyone. There is certainly nothing in the offing at the present time for the share placing." But with news today of a major letting in Germany adding around 10 per cent to the group's gross revenue, the dividend looks next year and the shares, which are a sound medium-term hold as a recovery situation.

9 months: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £34.1m
Sales £47.7m (£45.1m)
Pre-tax profits £3.94m (£4.71m)

Interim: 1975/6 (1974/5)
Capitalization £8.75m
Dividend gross 1.54p

yields about two points more than the market as a whole there is room for some relative upward rating.

Interim: 1975/6 (1974/5)
Capitalization £8.75m
Dividend gross 1.54p

ERF First half losses

Fodens proved the first of the Sandbach commercial vehicle manufacturing duo to hit trouble, but, judging by the interim loss and passed dividend, times are not very much happier at ERF. And but for a £150,000 turnaround into profit in the South African assembly and sales operation—partly offset by exchange losses below the line—the pre-tax loss for the 28 weeks to mid-October would have been of the order of £400,000, with the group hard hit in its first quarter by production problems on its new models and in the second quarter, by the slump in demand.

Nor, at this stage at least, does there seem much possibility of the group cutting back on its first-half loss by the year-end. True, production through the winter months has climbed to around 35 units a week—some 60 per cent of capacity—but that has only been possible thanks to highly competitive pricing.

In short, there seems little prospect of a return to profitability ahead of a general upturn in demand and that could well be some months away still. Meanwhile, it looks as if the year-end balance sheet in March is going to show shareholders' funds and borrowings roughly level pegging at just over £3m. That explains why the capitalization at 29p is a mere £2.3m and why the shares have a speculative tag.

Interim: 1975-76 (1974-75)
Capitalization £12.8m
Sales £11.7m (£10.9m)
Pre-tax loss £20.2m (£10.38m)
Dividend gross nil (2.48p)
Profit

Morgan Crucible Recovery deferred

With the fall in third quarter profits, at 18.6 per cent, only marginally lower than that recorded in the preceding three months, Morgan Crucible's nine-month figures are disappointing. For although the Thermic and Acorn divisions have continued to perform well, there are no signs in these latest figures of any recovery; indeed, with trading profits in the Carbon division now down by over 30 per cent, there are no clear signs even of benefits from the elimination of double running costs on completion of the Morganite Electrical move to South Wales.

And with all its overseas exposure (over half the sales are derived from abroad), Morgan is still forecasting a £5.5m pre-tax loss for the year as against £6.35m last year. In a good year the group undoubtedly has the capacity to make £7m pre-tax; but it now looks unlikely there will be a good year before 1976-77. Meanwhile, Morgan has again demonstrated that there is no recession barrier; and although the 8.6 per cent prospective yield at 82½p is undoubtedly a prop, neither the high prospective earnings multiple (13 on a fully-extended basis) nor the immediate trading prospects leave room for the shares to outperform the market.

9 months: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £34.1m
Sales £47.7m (£45.1m)
Pre-tax profits £3.94m (£4.71m)

Kenneth Owen examines 'a crusade... to establish the real criteria for success' in business

Closing the performance gap: what industry can learn from Japan

"The essence of technology is not research and development," said Dr Frank Jones, Fellow of the Royal Society, a director of the Mechanical Engineering Economic Development Committee, and former chairman and managing director of Mullard.

"You can't value technology until you sell the goods," said Dr Jones, who began an address at a recent symposium at Cranfield Institute of Technology. He went on to analyse the respective performances of Plessey in Britain and Sony in Japan, as examples of basic differences in the performance of the British and Japanese industries generally.

Starting from an examination of the detailed performance figures which are regularly available for Japanese companies, Dr Jones has accumulated a formidable volume of company information over the past few years.

Via platforms such as the Cranfield symposium and the Confederation of British Industry's CBI Review, next month in the James Clayton lecture of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers—he is now leading a crusade to persuade British companies to analyse their performance realistically and in much greater detail, and so establish the real criteria for success.

Dr Jones's prime point is that the basic measure of success in technology is the added value—the difference between the sales achieved and the cost of the goods and services that are bought in.

Whether the 'technology' is converting crude oil into petrol, or silicon into integrated circuits, Dr Jones points out, the economic facts are the same. The money available is the difference between the purchase at one end of the factory and the price obtained for the finished goods at the other.

Expressed per employee, the wide variation in added value between British and Japanese companies is evident from the accompanying tables, which are extracted from Dr Jones's figures. For Sony, for example, the 1974 figure was £10.44 per employee; for Plessey, it was £2.77.

The respective figures for assets per employee are also remarkable—just over £4,000 at GEC contrasting with £21,000 at Hitachi, for example—and the gap is getting wider, Dr Jones points out.

PRODUCTIVITY OF SELECTED COMPANIES, 1974									
	Plessey	GEC	Racal	Philips	Hitachi	Sony	Japan electronic industry	Japan industry (general)	
Employees	57,756	206,000	6,000	412,000	81,797	10,347	200,099	2,445,310	
Per employee:									
Total assets (£)	2,457	4,096	3,632	12,483	21,117	34,470	17,981	29,952	
Net tangible assets (£)	886	1,117	1,173	4,168	3,068	3,841	2,645	8,265	
Sales (£)	4,487	6,829	6,370	11,160	20,128	40,573	21,994	29,941	
Bought-in goods and services (£)	1,710	3,591	3,898	5,203	13,887	30,171	18,191	21,761	
Added value (£)	2,777	3,268	4,674	5,957	6,431	10,402	5,803	6,060	
Buildings, plant and machinery at depreciated value.									

DISTRIBUTION OF ADDED VALUE PER EMPLOYEE									
(in £s, with percentage in brackets)									
	Plessey	GEC	Racal	Philips	Hitachi	Sony	Japan electronic industry	Japan industry (general)	
Wages and salaries	2,121 (76.4)	2,136 (65.4)	2,576 (55.1)	4,457 (74.6)	3,267 (50.8)	3,367 (32.4)	2,563 (44.0)	3,410 (42.3)	
Welfare and pensions	18 (0.6)	5 (0.1)	100 (2.1)	50 (0.8)	161 (2.5)	208 (2.0)	104 (1.8)	154 (1.9)	
Rent	25 (0.9)	86 (2.6)	78 (1.7)	241 (4.0)	727 (11.3)	688 (6.6)	446.8 (7.7)	1,333 (16.5)	
Financial costs	16 (0.6)	50 (1.5)	115 (2.5)	50 (0.9)	183 (3.0)	623 (6.0)	265.9 (4.6)	291 (3.6)	
Local rates and taxes	188 (6.8)	428 (13.0)	805 (17.2)	324 (5.3)	431 (6.7)	1,885 (18.0)	820.9 (14.0)	549 (6.8)	
Corporation tax	282 (10.1)	407 (12.5)	788 (16.8)	347 (5.6)	424 (6.7)	2,280 (22.1)	841.5 (14.5)	593 (7.4)	
Net profit after tax	127 (4.6)	176 (5.5)	212 (4.4)	478 (8.0)	885 (10.7)	582 (5.6)	545.5 (9.4)	1,123 (13.0)	
Depreciation	2,777 (100)	3,268 (100)	4,674 (100)	5,957 (100)	6,431 (100)	10,402 (100)	5,803 (100)	6,060 (100)	
Retained	237	506	886	548	845	2,700	1,023	1,466	
Depreciation plus profit less dividend.									

But a new dimension is added to the comparison when the added value is examined in detail. As a matter of routine these details are filed by Japanese companies; added value is split into wages and salaries, welfare and pensions contributions, factory rent, financial costs (interest on borrowed capital), local rates and taxes, corporation tax, net profit after tax, and depreciation.

As the second table shows, the proportion of added value which goes on wages, salaries, welfare and pensions ranges from about 38 per cent for Sony to over 75 per cent for Plessey.

For depreciation of plant and machinery, Sony retains in the company £582 a head, while the Plessey figure is £127. The only other money available for investment comes from profits; after paying shareholders' dividends, and including the depreciation allowance, Sony is able to retain a healthy £2,700 per employee, compared with only £237 for Plessey.

"You can do a lot of research, development and marketing with £2,700 per employee," Dr Jones comments. The need is to feed enough money back into the company to strengthen the sector, as it is the British practice, to say the least.

Thus the main message from Dr Jones's analysis is, first, that British companies in general do not know exactly how much wealth they are creating (that is, how much value they are adding).

Secondly, when the figure is known, it is much lower per employee than in Japanese industry.

Thirdly, an analysis of this added value shows, among other things, that wages, salaries, welfare and pensions take up a higher proportion than in Japan; and the amount retained in the company for investment in new plant and machinery is much less.

Dr Jones has no hesitation in associating these points directly with the relatively poor productivity of the United Kingdom industry—in all sectors, not just the electronic examples quoted here.

Not only is the absolute figure for value added per employee too low, he argues; the proportion of it that goes on wages, salaries, welfare and pensions is too high and the proportion retained for investment is too low.

He summarises the situation as follows. In Japan, about 50 per cent of added value is available for wages and salaries, and the other 50 per cent is retained by the company for servicing capital and reinvestment. In Britain, about 70 per cent goes on wages and salaries and only 30 per cent is retained by the company.

A limited future for Europe's 'snake'

business of reporting on European monetary union to produce documents which now have little more than historical curiosity.

There are two possible functions which the linking of some of Europe's currencies could perform.

One, which is the notion which was favoured by the EEC ministers when they agreed to set up the experiment in the early 1970s, is to act as a dry run for a much more ambitious operation in which all community currencies are locked together, so that they effectively become one and can be replaced by a single unit.

This is not the only possible way forward to this ultimate goal; others have suggested floating a new community unit in parallel with existing national currencies, and trying to use this new unit gradually to supplant the old for a whole range of purposes.

However, the idea that the snake should be formed, loosely at first but with ever increasing firmness, still remains the official orthodoxy and it is one which Mr Tindemans repeats.

Instead of the present system where the only requirements are that the foreign exchange markets intervention policy should be consistent with not allowing any "snake" currency to move out of line no far from any of the other members of the snake, he calls for mutual cooperation of the international behaviour of snake countries.

It is just this step which each of the community countries are unwilling to take. It is, for example, because both the United Kingdom and Italy have felt that they are not able to reconcile their domestic needs with those of the snake, that it is necessary for the Tindemans report to accept that it is unrealistic to expect them to go along at the same pace as everyone else.

On this, the fundamental vicious circle which has bedevilled all previous efforts to get each of the EEC countries to agree to a more integrated monetary role into a major element in European integration, is likely to put its present achievements at risk. Countries which are not members of the EEC would be prevented from having a choice between being actively non-cooperating members of a unit which claimed power over all major economic policy decisions, or dropping out, and it is fairly clear what they would do.

Reading Sir Tindemans's report, it is hard to feel that the measures he supports would really advance Europe on the lengthy road to a united economy.

David Eick

snake does perform could be left.

An attempt to convert the snake from its present loose, pragmatic role into a major element in European integration, is likely to put its present achievements at risk. Countries which are not members of the EEC would be prevented from having a choice between being actively non-cooperating members of a unit which claimed power over all major economic policy decisions, or dropping out, and it is fairly clear what they would do.

Reading Sir Tindemans's report, it is hard to feel that the measures he supports would really advance Europe on the lengthy road to a united economy.

David Eick

Business Diary: T & N swops cogs • The City and Sir Reg

There are to be no more but two handovers by Sir Ralph Berriman this year, it was learnt yesterday.

Sir Ralph, who is 66, will be handing over his CBI presidency to Lord Watkinson on completion of his two-year term in May.

In July, however, Sir Ralph will be bowing out from the chairmanship of Turner & Watkinson, the asbestos and motor components group that he has joined as a management director in 1971.

His successor, in contrast, is to be his deputy chairman Patrick Griffith, who in terms of the Manchester-based group's holding is a newcomer.

Griffith is 50 and came to T & N in 1956, the year before Sir Ralph became chairman. When the group acquired his united family firm, the Slough-based Engineering Components, makers of auto gaskets and alloys.

Griffith's slot as deputy chairman is to be filled by Steve Ellis, who with Wilfrid Newton has been one of T & N's two managing directors. Jack Shepherd, formerly deputy managing director, will move up to senior director.

He does not drive in this way any more, although Ferodo, a T & N subsidiary, each year awards a trophy to the firm thought to have contributed most to the motor industry. It was awarded last month to Automotive Products.

Sir Ralph, although no racing driver, has of course had to do some tight cornering himself over the past two years with a number of crashing gear changes at the CBI. He's letting it be known at the moment that come July he'd like to catch his breath before committing himself to any new public duties.

Blitz '76

As members of the Greater London Council prepare to endorse the proposals of Sir Reg Goodwin, the GLC Labour leader, to stem the outflow of jobs and people from the metropolis, they might like to consider a few of the problems.

To start with, there is little chance of any industrial revival so long as the government continues to restrict office development permits and industrial development certificates.

The Department of the Environment has just finished a review of the position in the South-East. Anthony Crosland, the Secretary of the Environment, may be preparing to ease up a little, but not necessarily all that much.

Moreover, Mr Crosland recently endorsed the Layfield Panel's recommendations on the Greater London development plan which, broadly speaking, suggested that new and expanding towns were a Good Thing and to be encouraged.



Labour's Crosland and Sir Reg: one says stop and the other says go.

David Hall, director of the Town and Country Planning Association, pointed out in a letter in *The Times* yesterday that such towns have absorbed only about 15 per cent of the emigrants. Furthermore, the Location of Offices Bill, a statutory body, is as busy as ever urging firms to move—not just to the new towns but to anywhere, so long as it is outside Central London.

Horace Cutler, the Tories' leader of County Hall, got into the act yesterday by making the point about persuading prospective firms to change its mind to IDCs. He also suggested that, for a start, the GLC should get on with redeveloping the docklands, the one area where Crosland might be expected to show some sympathy. But the problem here is, where is the

money to come from? Ironically the one place where Sir Reg can expect to find warm support is the City of London, whose corporation is resisting a takeover bid by the Labour-controlled GLC.

It would be ironic if Sir Reg were to find himself in cahoots with the bankers and property developers who are only too keen to see all those empty offices filled and the bulldozers at work on those blighted sites which at the moment can't afford to do anything with.

Until all this is sorted out, where are London's extra people to find work?

been posted at 12.18 pm the previous day in Tokyo. It landed at about 4.45 pm yesterday, after a desk of a chap who had complained that it took seven days for a letter he sent from the same desk to reach Albury Street, a couple of miles away.

Empire building

Following the surprise collapse of Wheeler's Restaurants and the closure of the Caprice is to change hands for the second time in a year.

Heritage Foods, which bought the Caprice after it was closed down by the Epicure group, is selling the restaurant located in Arlington House, Piccadilly, to Alan Da Costa's Empire Catering.

Da Costa plans to close down the Caprice on completion at the end of January, and to reopen at the beginning of April after a remodeling estimated to cost as much again as the undisclosed purchase price.

He said last night that he will call the restaurant Richoux at the Caprice. He already has three Richoux restaurants, one in Brompton Road, opposite Harrods, one in South Andley Street (drawing on Bond Street shoppings and a third in Gals Green.

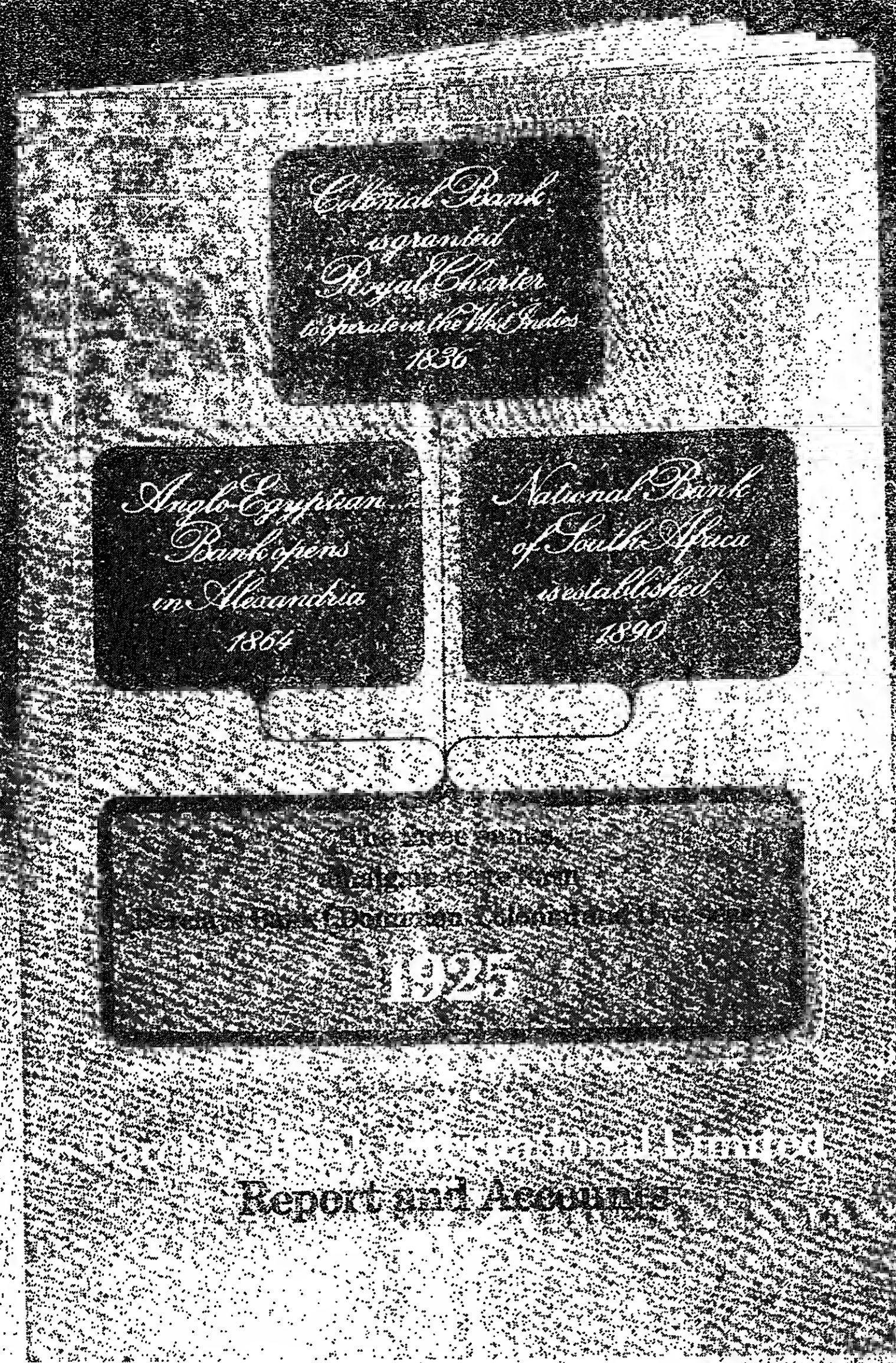
Da Costa sees the new Caprice as a British equivalent of Lindy's, the New York show business restaurant. He plans a seven-days-a-week, 9 am to midnight service of fairly simple dishes for women doing their shopping and some more elaborate dishes for before and after-theatre suppers.

Equity & Law

New business almost doubled in four years

	New Sums Assured £ millions	New Annual Premiums £ millions
1972	518	7.5
1973	712	9.4
1974	806	12.0
1975	999	16.4

EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY LIMITED



"The Annual General Meeting at which this report and accounts will be presented will be the fiftieth such occasion in the life of this bank...I am sure that we all face the opportunity and challenge which lie before us with the same confidence that our founder showed fifty years ago."

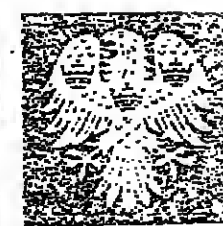
These references to the golden jubilee of the bank are quoted from the statement by the Chairman, Mr Anthony Favill Tuke, for the year ended 30th September 1975. Copies of the full statement and report of the directors can be obtained by application to the Secretary, Barclays Bank International Limited, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

Please send me a copy of your report and accounts for the year ended 30th September 1975.

Name (with title) _____

Address _____

Post Code _____



BARCLAYS
International

Post to the Secretary, Barclays Bank International Limited, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Low demand for credit seen

The annual meeting of National & Commercial Banking Group heard Mr James Blair-Cunynghame, the chairman, say that there are signs that the recession is abating and that our domestic rate of inflation, though still unacceptably high, has slowed down.

With the notable exception of export finance, there is little sign of a recovery in demand for bank credit, probably, we should expect more during the rest of the current financial year.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	11%
First London Secs	11%
C. Hoare & Co.	11%
Lloyds Bank	10 1/2%
Midland Bank	11%
Nat Westminster	11%
Royal Bank	11%
Shenley Trust	12 1/2%
20th Century Bank	12 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	11%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 or over, 7 1/2% over £25,000, 8 1/2%.

COMPANY MEETING

PLAXTON'S (SCARBOROUGH) LIMITED

(Luxury Coach Body Builders) Extracts from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr F. W. Plaxton, for the year ended August 31st, 1975.

Our Group activities produced pre-tax profits of £768,013 compared with £833,713.

Coach Division production in the first six months was seriously restricted by the shortage of coach chassis, and caused complications in the changeover to our new steel framed 'Supreme' bodywork. We have a very healthy order book.

Repairs and Spares Division had a very good year turnover in repair work and the supply of spare parts being considerably increased with consequent improved results.

Vehicle fittings trading was influenced by the general downturn in demand in the motor industry, and our own lower output of coaches. In the prevailing circumstances the maintenance of previous profitability was a good achievement.

Building Division had a very busy year and produced results far in excess of previous figures. Several large contracts were completed and our country-wide activities in the shopping field were expanded.

It is impossible at this time to forecast the outcome of the present year which must be affected by continuing rising costs and reduced margins. I am still optimistic regarding the longer term prospects given a curtailment of inflation and an upturn in national trading conditions.

IN PARLIAMENT
SESSION 1974-75

THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS of the STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY will be held at 1, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4, on Tuesday, the 26th January, 1976, at 2.30 p.m.

At which in compliance with the Statutes of the Company and the provisions of the Companies Act 1947, the following business is proposed to be transacted:

"A Bill to confer further powers of borrowing on the Standard Life Assurance Company, and for other purposes."

will be submitted for the consideration, and, if thought fit, the consent of the members.

Forms of proxy for the use of members of the company who are unable to be present at the meeting, and who wish to vote thereon, may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

B. D. O. of the Board of Directors
D. R. A. DONALD,
General Manager and Secretary
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
1, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

Revolutionary changes were also passed on the following poll:

Adoption of the Directors' Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1975
56,601,412 10,305

Re-appointment of Mr J. O. Blair-Cunynghame as a Director
56,593,321 20,936

To authorise Directors to fit the remuneration of the Auditors
56,602,363 12,044

Resolution moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman which he acknowledged.
I. C. Manklow, Secretary.
36 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2YB. 8th January, 1976.

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To authorise Directors to fit the remuneration of the Auditors
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Commodities

COPPER was easier. Cash wire bars were down 1/2d to 275.00. Afternoon cash wire bars were down 1/2d to 275.00. Three months' futures were down 1/2d to 275.00. Six months' futures were down 1/2d to 275.00. Nine months' futures were down 1/2d to 275.00. Twelve months' futures were down 1/2d to 275.00.

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Foreign Exchange

For most of the day exchange rates kept to a narrow range, with the pound sterling continuing to keep fresh commitments down to a minimum pending the outcome of the IMF meeting.

The dollar eventually closed firmer, benefiting in later trading from the weakness of gold in the free market.

Starting also had a rather uneventful day, and the trade-weighted depreciation against major currencies stayed at 30 per cent throughout.

The pound's dollar rate kept in the narrow range of \$2.040-2.035 and was finally unrounded on the day at \$2.0345.

Gold fell \$2.50 an ounce, to \$136.00.

Spot Position of Sterling

Market rates for sterling

New York 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

London 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Frankfurt 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Paris 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Geneva 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Zurich 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Basel 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Brussels 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Amsterdam 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Antwerp 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Luxembourg 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Strasbourg 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Nice 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Marseille 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Montpellier 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Narbonne 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Perpignan 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

St. Raphael 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Toulon 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Arles 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Avignon 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Orange 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Valence 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Montbéliard 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Belfort 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Colmar 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Mulhouse 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Strasbourg 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Metz 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Discount market

Although anticipating another short discount houses' balance sheet from the Bank of England, this suggested that the banks would be carrying rundown balances forward to Friday.

Identified factors draining liquidity from the market included an excess of revenue transfers to the Exchequer over government disbursements, and settlement of the very large sales of gilts made by the Government Broker on Wednesday's rising market.

For most of the morning 10 or 10 1/2 per cent was being paid for fresh funds, where they could be obtained. But money appeared in some volume in early afternoon, and final balances were usually taken at about the 10 per cent mark.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 10 1/2%

Overnight 10 1/2%

3 months 10 1/2%

6 months 10 1/2%

9 months 10 1/2%

12 months 10 1/2%

Forward Levels

New York 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

London 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Frankfurt 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Paris 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Geneva 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Zurich 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Basel 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Brussels 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Amsterdam 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Antwerp 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Luxembourg 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Strasbourg 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Nice 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Marseille 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Montpellier 1 month 10 1/2% 12 months 10 1/2%

Bovis
Bovis Construction Limited

Phone: 01-422 3488

DRIVERS
JONAS

Prices edge ahead

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

NORTH EAST
ESSEX

Main Line station 1 1/2 miles. London 60 minutes.
AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL
AND INVESTMENT ESTATE
ABOUT 844 ACRES

Fine "listed" Georgian House, completely renovated with magnificent gardens, 4 Reception Rooms, 7 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms. Heated Swimming Pool, Tennis Court. Excellent Garage, Staff Flat.

WITH VACANT POSSESSION
together with
Three Small Farms, well equipped,
let and producing £11,415 per annum.
The estate includes extensive
Gravel Deposits

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY
AS A WHOLE OR DIVIDED

Joint Agents:

FENN WRIGHT GARROD TURNER

145 High Street, Colchester (CO2 6EL1) and

STRUTT & PARKER, COVAT HALL

Chelmsford (CM2 5S21). Ref: 2/CD/1460

NORFOLK/SUFFOLK BORDERS

2000, in residential street of period character. Well modernized
large house, 12 rooms, 5 bathrooms, 3 car garages, 1000 sq. ft.
parkland. Ref: 2516, £13,750.

ISOLATED COUNTRY COTTAGE in an acre, 2 rec., 3/4 beds,
bath, etc. Ref: 2516, £13,750.

RECENTLY RESTORED COTTAGE. One in village at £2,150, one
in small town at £2,150. Both 2 rec., 2 beds, bath, etc.

FARMHOUSE PROPERTY in small hamlet, exposed beams, good
accommodation. Ref: 2641, £11,500.

DETACHED COTTAGE in large garden, 3 bedrooms, bath, etc.
modern home with 100 sq. ft. garden. Ref: 2642, £11,500.

TWO TOWN COTTAGES, to quiet close, One let, one vacant with
garden. Ref: 2643, £11,500.

SUFFOLK VILLAGE (with boys' prep. school). Period cottage for
rent. Ref: 2644, £10,750.

ON EDGE OF QUETZ, well restored period cottage, beams,
bath, etc. Ref: 2645, £10,750.

A SELECTION OF LARGER HOUSES AND FARMHOUSES, SOME
WITH LAND.

THOS. WM. GAZE & SON
Ryton Road, Diss (Worcs. 2211), Norfolk.

SELSEY, SUSSEX
West Beach, magnificent
cottage, 12 rooms, 5
bathrooms, 1000 sq. ft.
parkland. Ref: 2516, £13,750.

ALSO FANTASTIC NEW
FARMHOUSE

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It should come to pass that a year shall be light.

BIRTHS

GIBSON—On January 8, 1976, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a son (William) to Mr. and Mrs. J. Gibson. Weighing 7 lb 10 oz, length 19 in, crown 13 in. Father, Mr. J. Gibson, 10, St. Mary's Road, London. Mother, Mrs. J. Gibson, 10, St. Mary's Road, London.

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1976 Cutty Sark/Times National Crossword Championship

Contestants may qualify to take part by correctly solving and submitting either one of two qualifying puzzles of which this is the first. The first entry must be accompanied by an entry fee of £1.00 which will also cover the second qualifying puzzle. Competitors should complete the puzzle and entry form and post them by first class mail to National Crossword Championships, 7 Stratford Place, London W1A 4YU, so that the entry is postmarked not later than Monday, 12 January. The second qualifying puzzle will appear on 16 January. Solutions will appear on the Wednesday following, and so on. The winners from the seven regional finals will compete in the final at the Europa Hotel, London, on Sunday, September 5.

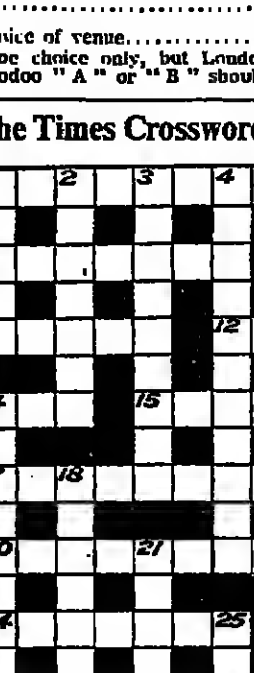
I enclose cheque/PO for £1.00 payable to Grand Metropolitan Hotels Ltd, my entry fee for the Cutty Sark/Times National Crossword Championship.

Name (please print):

Address:

Choice of venue: (One choice only, but London applicants available for either London 'A' or 'B' should simply enter 'London')

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,195



ACROSS

- They have church meeting; a choir starts (9)
- Noble product of the French-American state (5)
- Applied by town painter, but old soldier (7)
- Channel Island, tree-pod named into a kind of acid (7)
- Large bet about two points (5)
- Says or rip out ship's boiler, for trouble (9)
- The wicked wilderness (13)
- Plethora of foot-trotter for a fellow (6, 2, 5)
- After one manuscript—doctrine seems avowed (11)
- Harassed animal hard off (5)
- Use deception on honey-norm (3, 4)
- "A quart of beer," said the maid (7)
- Type of organ pneumatically operated (5)
- Worse trouble can come out of this (6, 3)

DOWN

- Quiver visibly in bath-robe (5)
- Author may produce a new issue (7)
- Transport for freaks (6, 3)
- Special dislike of poor teacher (3, 5)
- Junior officer to act to another's place (13)
- He painted old city in communist rising (5)
- It's a fair target, but makes Robin nervous (7)
- Brussels work-tariffs causing tears (9)
- She's flimsy and uses makeup (7, 4)
- Natural plain fashion (9)
- Chop day out for lake poet (9)
- Mother and children collected fruit (7)
- Source of papal illumination (7, 3, 4)
- College window (5)
- Great legislator, thus long unimpaired (13)
- This land where Tennyson could hardly bear the cars (3)

Solution of Puzzle No 14,194

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